

Hafa Adai!

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Case against ex-Rota DCCA chief Manglona is dropped. » **PAGE 6**

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75¢

CUC: All feeders are now up

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

» **80 percent of wells powered up**

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has energized all eight main power lines—technically called feeders—on Saipan and currently powers 80 percent of their 145 water wells, according to acting CUC executive director John Riegel yesterday.

See CUC on **Page 4**

Tourists come, not for pleasure but to help and volunteer

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

Many tourists opted to cancel their trips to Saipan in the aftermath of Typhoon Soudelor, yet there are also a handful that have chosen to come precisely because they want to help in the recovery efforts.

One of them is Harry Kawano, a frequent visitor to the island. This time, for his 15th visit, he is not a tourist but a volunteer.

As he sees it, it's his way of returning the favor for all those who helped them during the Japan earthquake and tsunami.

See TOURISTS on **Page 4**

DLNR questions ESA listing of some NMI species

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

The Department of Land and Natural Resources believes the decision made by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list 23 species in Guam and the CNMI

as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act was rushed.

According to DLNR, they supported the listing of seven of the 17 species found in the CNMI, but "questioned the in-

See DLNR on **Page 4**



Backhoes and other heavy equipment vehicles can be seen doing earthwork operations at the Puerto Rico dump that will be converted into a park. The \$27-million federally funded dumpsite closure and park project is expected to be completed in November 2016. The groundbreaking kicked off last June.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Puerto Rico dump closure on schedule

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Tires, wood, and other debris extraction is ongoing at the Puerto Rico dump, as the closure project enters its fourth month since a notice-to-proceed was given in May to turn the regulation-violating dump

site into a eco-friendly community park, said one of the officials overseeing the project yesterday.

"Project is on schedule," Carl Castro, of the Office of the Governor's Capital Improvement Projects Office, told *Saipan Tribune*.

In an interview at the CIP of-

fice, Castro explained that they are currently "grading" the project site so they can maneuver heavy equipment around it. Grading also ensures a stable base, or the specified slope of the project.

The project site, located along Industrial Drive, is currently surrounded with "silt

fencing," Castro said. That's to protect from further erosion and contaminants seeping outside the project footprint, he added.

Contractors have separated debris into tires and wood. According to Castro, they estimate plus or minus that 20,000 tires will be removed from the old dump.

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INSIDE



LOCAL

The 2015 Island Summer Auto Fest draws hundreds of automotive enthusiasts.

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WORLD

Hope fades for finding survivors of a mudslide that killed at least 131 in Guatemala.

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LIFE & STYLE

Appearing in the new season of "American Horror Story" was a life boost for Lady Gaga.

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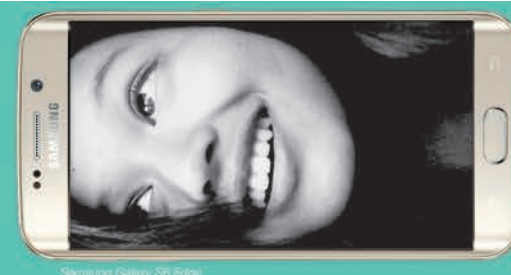


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Local

Pagan fishing initiative slowed down by storms

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

The Pagan fishing initiative under the Northern Islands Mayor's Office was going smoothly but operations had to be put on hold due to the impact of storms in the past couple of months.

According to Northern Islands Mayor Jerome K. Aldan, typhoons Soudelor and Nangka put a halt to operations due to the choppy waters and lack of boats going north.

Aldan assured, though, that he would be going north sometime this month to make sure the project gets going again. The storms prevented him from going up north in August and September.

Right now, they already have a container with a solar-operated freezer on Pagan and it is being used as a cold storage unit for the fish that are intended to be brought to Saipan for sale.

Aldan said the Department of Lands and Natural Resources' Marine Conservation Plan's seed funding of \$40,620 defrayed the purchase of fishing gear and equipment intended to jumpstart the fishing community on Pagan.

In a letter to DLNR Secretary Richard Seman, Aldan said he used the funding to purchase fishing equipment from Fishing Tackle & Sporting Goods and Joteten Motor Co. for the purchase of a Yamaha outboard motor.

"The fishing gear, equipment, and 25-horsepower Yamaha outboard motor have been transferred to Pagan Island on July 26, 2015, together with the first batch of seven fishermen that would commence the fishing project," Aldan told Seman.

"NIMO has been collaborating closely with local fishing vessels vendors who frequent the waters in the Northern Islands to provide the needed ocean transport from Pagan to the local Saipan market. NIMO has made preliminary contacts with one of the major hotels on Saipan for this purpose," he added.

Earlier in July, 20 native residents travelled to the Northern Islands with the intension of establishing a fishing community in Pagan as part of the Mayor's Resettlement Plan.

When fully implemented, the fishing community will be involved in trolling for tuna, wahoo, mahi-mahi, and marlin.

It would also involve bottom fishing for snappers, groupers, jobfish, trevallies, and emperor as well as spearfishing for surgeonfish, rudderfish, parrotfish, mullets, and goatfish.

"The fishing community will be able to process for consumption harvested fish, which would

undergo proper processing to preserve and maintain quality for export to Saipan where it would be sold and distributed," Aldan said.

"The Saipan Fishermen's Market Association is getting set to reopen its marketing operation at a new location along

Beach Road in Garapan and has agreed to assist the NIMO with its harvested fish. This arrangement will allow the NIMO to concentrate on the harvesting and delivery of fish products and will not need to waste its time trying to locate fish buyers.

"In addition, the fish prod-

ucts may be sold and distributed through other willing vendors on Saipan that are already selling fresh fish products on a daily basis. This will allow the fishing community to improve and increase its catch level and gain added economic benefit," he said.

First car show in years a roaring success



FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

Vehicles and bikes of different models and makes were displayed at the 2015 Island Summer Auto Fest held at the Marianas Business Plaza last Saturday.

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

After a hiatus of several years, a car show once again took place on Saipan, with the 2015 Island Summer Auto Fest drawing hundreds of automotive enthusiasts to the Marianas Business Plaza last Saturday.

About 40 cars and 17 bikes were on exhibit, and it was not just souped up versions of modern vehicles but also several automobile classics.

According to organizer James Fleming, he and his wife, Carol, decided to do the event after much prodding from people.

"A lot of people have been asking me, 'Hey, when is the next car show?'" Fleming said.

After over 15 years of competing, they decided to run the car show themselves.

The show was earlier set for Aug. 22 but got pushed off the calendar due to Typhoon Soudelor. They decided to hold it instead last Saturday.

Fleming said it's a way to bring the community together.

"It's something to bring back all the people and become one because, you know, everyone suffered a lot during the typhoon," Fleming said.

He himself was surprised by

the outcome.

"This is pretty much the biggest one because when I was competing before in the late '90s...cars were few," Fleming said.

The show attracted a lot of entries but Fleming said they would have had a lot more if some vehicles hadn't gotten damaged by Soudelor.

"We were willing to accommodate them. The judges were willing to not focus on the damage," Fleming said. However, some owners of the damaged cars opted not to display their cars.

Three judges from Guam came to the island for the event.

"The judges are from Guam so that there will be no conflict. They are always judging competitions in Guam so they know what they are looking at," Fleming said.

"The vehicles were judged through a point system based on their tires and rims, body, interior, exterior, undercarriage, engine, and overall appearance," he added.

The vehicles competed for eight categories.

Overall Best of Show was awarded to Manny Ada with his 1995 Acura Integra Type R.

Ada also topped the two-door category, followed by

Norris Kwon's 2009 Nissan Grey 370z and Francis Villamin's 2000 Honda Civic Hatchback in second and third places, respectively.

For the four-door category, Joel M. Javier's 1993 Toyota Corolla won the first place followed by Raymond Borja's 2000 Honda Civic.

James Whang swept the whole classic category, winning the first to third places with his 1931 green Ford Model A, 1954 red and white Chevy Bel Air, and 1962 Volkswagen Real Maxi Taxi.

In the 4x4 Category, Toyota Tacomas ruled with Svetlana Del Rosario's 2015 model coming on top and Curtis Dancoe's 2006 model in second.

Mark "Ibo" Borja topped the truck category with his 1985 Nissan 720st. Jesse J. Celis was the sole winner for the SUV category with a 2008 Chevy Suburban.

For the cruiser bike category, Sean White won first place with his 2015 Harley Davidson Road King. It was followed by Dennis Jacobs' 2007 American Iron House Legend and Steven Llagas' 2014 Harley Davidson Sportster 72.

Jay Doronilla topped the café bike category with his 2009 Yamaha R1.



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DFEMS issues stop order, temporary closure of store

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services Arson Investigation Unit stopped work and temporarily closed down the New X.O. Market and two other establishments in the building in the wake of Saturday's fire in Gualo Rai.

» 2 other establishments also ordered closed

DFEMS spokesman Derek Gersonde said yesterday the Arson Investigation Unit determined that the blaze originated from a trash fire in the rear por-

tion of the building.

Gersonde said the fire from the ground floor traveled to the second floor, which had combustibles that ignited and intensified the blaze.

He said the cause of the fire is incendiary and accidental and the case is considered closed.

Gersonde denied witnesses' account that the fire was triggered by welding work. He did not elaborate.

He said the stop work order and temporary closure covered X.O. Market, the New X.O. B Clean Laundry, and Party Poker.

New deadline set for govt to file restitution claim against Fitial

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman set a new deadline yesterday for the CNMI government to file its restitution claim against former governor Benigno R. Fitial in connection with his criminal conviction.

Wiseman allowed the government to file its request for restitution on or before Oct. 19, 2015. Fitial will then have 10 days to file any objections.

The judge set the new deadlines in order for Fitial and his counsel, Stephen Nutting, to facilitate further discussions with special prosecutor George L. Hasselback.

The original deadline for the government to submit its restitution claim was on Sept. 10, 2015.

Saipan Tribune ran a story last Friday, Oct. 2, about the government's failure to file a request for restitution by the Sept. 10 deadline. In that ar-

ticle, Hasselback disclosed that he is in talks with Nutting about coming up with the amount of restitution.

In his order yesterday, Wiseman disclosed that last Friday, Oct. 2, Hasselback and Nutting appeared before his courtroom via a telephone conference to discuss the continuance of certain deadlines in order to give the parties more time to hammer out the amount owed by Fitial in restitution to the Commonwealth.

Last Aug. 18, Fitial, through Nutting, paid the \$6,000 fine and \$100 court assessment fee that the court had imposed on him.

Fitial pleaded guilty in May to misconduct in public office and conspiracy to commit theft of service as part of a plea agreement with the government.

Wiseman sentenced Fitial to a year in prison. The former governor was supposed to start serving his prison term last July 6, but Gov. Eloy S. Inos commuted the prison term.

He said the stop work order and temporary closure were issued for fire code compliance.

As of Sunday, X.O. Market was up and running, while the poker arcade and laundromat were operating yesterday, Gersonde said.

sonde said.

X.O. Market occupies mostly the first floor of the two-story commercial building. New X.O. B Clean Laundry and Party Poker are also located on the first floor.

'\$160K needed to open Marpi Public Cemetery'

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
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REPORTER

The Marpi Public Cemetery needs \$160,000 to provide power to the facility, which will in turn lead to its long-awaited opening, according to Lt. Gov. Ralph Torres in a letter to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation last Sep. 16.

In that letter, Torres asked the delegation for appropria-

tion to support the opening of the cemetery.

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor confirmed yesterday that this request was still on the table.

The public cemetery was completed in 2012 but its official opening has been delayed due to litigation issues regarding installation of power poles in a National Historical Landmark.

Gersonde said DFEMS received a call about a fire on Saturday at 1:58pm, prompting medics from the Commonwealth Health Center to respond.

He said at 2:04pm, firefighters from Susupe, Koblerville,

and Kagman fire stations as well as medics from the Garapan Fire Station responded and controlled the blaze at 2:44pm.

Gersonde said no one was injured or treated at the scene for medical complaints.

tem, and lighting for the memorial pavilion."

Torres says the cost-estimate for this is \$160,000. The administration's intent is to issue an "invitation to bid" through the Department of Public Works.

Saipan Tribune reported in May that the long-overdue opening of the Marpi Public Cemetery is exacerbating the lack of burial sites on Saipan as other public cemeteries are now

See CEMETERY on Next Page

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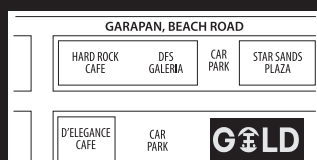
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TOURISTS

From Page 1

nami of 2011.

"Four and a half years ago, we had the earthquake [in Japan]. Many volunteers also came to our place, so this is our time," Kawanobe said. "I decided that I have to come here to become a volunteer."

For several days, Kawanobe volunteered with the Community Outreach Recovery Effort or CORE, doing house-to-house visits to hand out relief goods and participating in medical outreach.

Another tourist, Mami

Tachikawa, traveled for the first time to Saipan with her daughter. Even after seeing news reports about what had happened to the island, she still pressed ahead with her decision to come here.

"My trip to Saipan was for a summer vacation at first," Tachikawa said. "I thought that I wanted to help them, even just a little. I'm sure that it is very important to help each other."

Tachikawa said she was shocked to witness the devastation on the island.

"I was greatly shocked. Typhoon Soudelor's damage was far beyond my imagination. I felt that they need support for a

long time," Tachikawa said.

Her help for Saipan didn't end with her visit. Tachikawa asked her friends to make donations of mosquito coils and will soon send them here.

For Kazuo Miyakoshi, who is currently on island for his second visit as a volunteer, Saipan is his second home, hence his decision to help.

"My son worked on Saipan as a tour guide for three years. My wife and I first visited Saipan to see the place where my son was working. That was eight years ago. I have visited Saipan more than 40 times since then," Miyakoshi said.

"I visited Saipan to offer help

and let the islanders know that many people in Japan are genuinely concerned about Saipan," he added.

Aside from volunteer work, Miyakoshi raised \$7,600 with the help of other people in Japan, a donation that he personally handed over to Gov. Eloy S. Inos in August.

For his second visit, Miyakoshi helped with CORE's mobile medical outreach in Dandan last Saturday. He also donated goods such as allergen-protection masks, mosquito bite ointment, baby foods, and snacks. He will also hand over other cash donations.

"It really hurts me to think of

the people who have suffered for two months. I feel terrible that I can't do more for them. My heart aches when I think about babies, children, and elderly people who have to face this tragedy every minute of their lives over the past two months."

Miyakoshi said he intended to let people in Japan know how things are on Saipan.

"Those people have worked, lived in and visited Saipan, and they too really want to do whatever they can to help their friends in Saipan. They include people from Saipan

currently living in Japan, and they are so anxious about the state of their home country," Miyakoshi said.

Miyakoshi believes it won't take long for Saipan to normalize as everyone is helping each other.

"I believe that the strength of the Saipan people lie in togetherness. Families and friends are always there for one another. That's probably the biggest reason why I had fallen in love with Saipan. It reminds me of how my country was when I grew up," Miyakoshi said.



During his recent travel to Saipan, Harry Kawanobe joined the CORE team in their mobile outreach at Garapan last Sept. 26.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Miyakoshi donated various goods during his second visit to Saipan to help with the recovery efforts on island.

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Kazuo Miyakoshi handed over to Gov. Eloy S. Inos the \$7,500 that he was able to raise through Saipan Aid on Facebook.

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First-time island visitor Mami Tachikawa delivered mosquito coils to residents on one of her house visits when she volunteered to do recovery efforts with CORE.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DLNR

From Page 1

clusion of some of the species in the proposed rule."

DLNR said a number of the 23 species do not meet the definitions of "threatened" or "endangered" and "did not feel that these require federal protection at this time."

"From our own review and surveys, we found that some of these species were far more abundant and widespread than had been claimed by USFWS in the proposed rule for listing, and we found no evidence that these species were declining in the CNMI. For some other species, we found that there was insufficient information to determine whether these species should be listed at this time, and we recommended further surveys be conducted," DLNR said in a statement.

Last February, a letter signed by DLNR Secretary Richard Seman and Division of Wildlife and Services director Manny Pangelinan was sent to USF-

WS, citing major concerns over inaccuracies and inadequate information.

"We recommended to USFWS that further surveys be conducted on some of these species in question to determine if these species warranted listing, and requested additional time to conduct these surveys; however, unfortunately, this was not granted," the department said.

DLNR said they believe that other avenues for conservation were not considered and that the listing of some species may be counterproductive.

"Listing a species may be easy, but delisting is extremely difficult. While we fully support the Endangered Species Act's role in the conservation of species at risk, it is DLNR's position that listing a species that is not actually at risk of extinction is counterproductive to the conservation of both that species and species that are actually at risk," it said.

DLNR added that the bar for what constitutes an endangered or threatened species in the CNMI has now

been set "too low."

"We believe that USFWS has not considered that species that are endemic to small islands (i.e., are found nowhere else) have inherently small populations and distributions. We do not believe that such species should be listed unless there is demonstrable evidence that the species is declining and that there is hard scientific evidence of the factors that may cause the species to become extinct," their statement said.

"USFWS informed us that the species' status in Guam drove the listing decision, but we feel that this is unjustified. We are concerned that USFWS may now proceed to list additional species that may have even smaller populations and ranges within the CNMI than those included here," it added.

DLNR said they hope that USFWS will work more closely with them in the future when considering new species to list in the CNMI "in order to make fully informed decisions that will benefit our native species at risk without causing unne-

cessary burdens on the people of the CNMI."

"We look forward to working with USFWS in the protection and recovery of rare, threatened and endangered species in the CNMI. We will work with USFWS to develop recovery plans and implement conservation programs in order to protect these species and bring the populations to a stable level for delisting," DLNR said.

The department has a cooperative agreement with the USFWS under Section 6(c) of the Endangered Species Act which recognizes DLNR's role in the management of rare, threatened and endangered species of the CNMI through its administration of conservation and recovery programs for these species in cooperation with USFWS.

DFW, on the other hand, protects native species and provides enforcement in accordance with the CNMI Fish, Game, and Endangered Species Act, and in addition cooperates with USFWS in the enforcement of the federal Endangered Species Act.

DUMP

From Page 1

The tires will be cut into fours, while the wood will be chipped.

Castro said this debris would be treated, sanitized, and cleaned and put back into the project site.

"The goal is to keep the elevation lower," Castro said.

"The debris that we take out cannot go off the site," he added, citing environmental regulations.

Castro noted that since May 18—when the project began—they have found more than 10 pieces of unexploded ordnance on the site.

Castro said they have a UXO officer to observe during construction, and assured that if what appears to be an unexploded ordnance is observed, the heavy equipment would stop and the Department of Public

Safety is notified to remove the ordnance.

The dump closure project kicked off last June, with CNMI and Office of Insular Affairs officials attending a groundbreaking ceremony. Totaling \$27 million in costs, the project—which took several administrations to get started—is reported to be the largest federally funded project in the CNMI.

Castro says the goal is to turn the site into a community passive park. He said the beauty of the project is to make the dump not only environmentally compliant but eco- and people-friendly.

The Puerto Rico dump was used for the disposal of non-hazardous solid waste between the years of 1950 and February 2003, after which the government stopped accepting waste and began operation off-site at the solid waste transfer station and at the Marpi landfill.

CUC

From Page 1

Kiya 4, the last main power line—down and unpowered since Typhoon Soudelor caused the power and distribution grid to collapse—is back up, confirmed Riegel.

He said it was energized on Sunday.

"All feeders are energized," Riegel told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Kiya 4 runs from the Chalan Kiya substation down to Atkins Kroll on Beach Road and heads south to the post office in Chalan Kanoa.

CUC also energized yesterday the lateral going down to Talofo from Feeder 4, Riegel said, as CUC continues restoration work from the main lines into the laterals of the island.

Meanwhile, CUC has 80 percent of its wells on line power. They have 145 water wells.

"We are completely off [Federal Emergency Manage-

ment Agency] generators" for CUC water and sewer facilities since last week Monday, Riegel said. FEMA supplied generators to assist the CNMI in typhoon recovery.

Up next, Riegel said, is "rigorous leak detection" in areas like Koblerville, San Antonio, Kagman, and As Matuis, as they aim to bring back most of the island to 24-hour water.

In the last couple of days, CUC has brought 24-hour water to San Antonio and San Jose, Riegel said.

He advised the public to call the CUC call center to notify them of any leaks. That number is 664-4282.

They need to bring power to about 24 more wells, Riegel said. Right now, among others, they have 24-hour water in parts of Garapan, As Teo, Capital Hill, San Vicente, Dandan Homestead, lower Navy Hill (where the hospital is located), Lower Base, Papago, As Gonno, Koblerville, and Afetnas.

CEMETERY

From Page 3

overcrowded and nearing capacity. In July, officials reported that the cemetery would open in September, but this has been delayed anew.

The \$2.9-million Marpi Public Cemetery was made

possible by funding from the U.S. Department of the Interior through a Capital Improvement Project grant in early 2011. It is a non-denominational public cemetery and has 2,500 double-stack occupancy crypts for a total of 5,000 burials. The cemetery is said to have the potential to provide over 50,000 crypts for 33 years.

Temporary water service outages

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers in three of Saipan's southern villages will experience a temporary service interruption as part of an ongoing waterline improvement project.

Today, Oct. 6, CUC will temporarily interrupt water service to customers in Koblerville at 8am to allow CUC's contractor, RNV Construction, to install a new gate valve along Chalan Monsignor Martinez near the ABCD Market.

CUC will limit the area affected by the nine-hour outage to customers along Chalan Monsignor Martinez between Eskebeche Avenue and As Gonno Road.

Tomorrow, Oct. 7, CUC will temporarily interrupt water service to customers in Finasisu and As Lito at 8am to allow RNV Construction to install a new gate valve at the intersection of Chalan Monsi-

gnor Martinez and Chalan Tun Doir Road.

CUC will limit the area affected by the nine-hour outage to customers along Chalan Monsignor Martinez between Chalan Monsignor Guerrero to ABCD Market in Koblerville, Chalan Tun Apa Road, Chalan Tun Doi Road, and Finasisu down to Frankie's Auto Shop on As Perdido Road.

The work in each of the villages is part of the 8" ACP (Asbestos Concrete Pipe) waterline abandonment for the San Vicente service area extension project funded by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency.

CUC and its contractor will restore water service to customers in the affected area once the work has been completed. For more information, contact project manager Yvonne Cabrera by calling 664-4282. (CUC)

High surf and small craft advisories

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, large swells and winds associated with distant Tropical Storm Choi-Wan will produce conditions hazardous to small craft over the next few days.

A high surf advisory is now in effect until 6am Thursday.

A large northeast swell generated by Tropical Storm Choi-Wan will generate hazardous surf of 10 to 14 feet along east facing reefs. The surf is expected to subside to between 9 and 12 feet this morning. Surf along north facing reefs will build to between 7 and 10 feet by this morning.

A small craft advisory is in effect also until 6am Thursday.

Combined seas will build to between 9 and 11 feet. Winds will increase to around 20 knots today. These conditions will be hazardous for operators of small craft.

The public is being advised to avoid boating in these conditions. If travel by boat is necessary, exercise caution, especially near reef lines and when entering or leaving harbors and inlets. Avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those along west and north facing reefs, as rip currents will be life threatening. (HSEM)

Settlement Fund trustee's \$53,528 billing is approved

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood has found reasonable the request for compensation and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$53,528 filed by Settlement Fund trustee Joyce C.H. Tang that were incurred for a three-month period.

In an order on Thursday, Tydingco-Gatewood directed the Settlement Fund to pay Tang \$48,771.80, which represents 90 percent of her professional fees and 100 percent of all expenses incurred from May through July 2015.

The judge further ordered the Settlement Fund to hold in trust to the credit of Tang the sum of \$4,756.20, which represents 10 percent of the trustee's professional fees for this period.

Tydingco-Gatewood said Tang

may petition for release of the 10 percent retainage on a quarterly basis, subject to the court's satisfaction of the trustee's work and any objections to the trustee's compensation requests.

Tang requested for compensation in the amounts of \$12,218.80 for professional services and expenses for May; \$17,447.40 for June; and \$23,861.80 for July, for a total of \$53,528.

Tydingco-Gatewood said she has reviewed the invoices and finds Tang's request for compensation and reimbursement of expenses to be reasonable.

"The court is satisfied with the work performed by the trustee during this time frame," Tydingco-Gatewood said.

Last June, the judge approved Tang's request for compensation and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$69,806.10 for a six-month period, from November 2014 to April 2015.

MAFEA DONATION

The Marianas Association of Filipino Engineers & Architects, or MAFEA, presents a \$400 donation to the Saipan Music & Dance Studio (SMADS) dance group last Oct. 3 for their upcoming recital on Oct. 10, 2015. The event will feature young and talented SMADS dancers on the island.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO




BEST SUNSHINE LIVE
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LIVE DJ & BAND EVERY NIGHT!

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-001

Construction of Generator Housing and Supply, Delivery and Installation of New 40KV Generator and Electrical Connections for the Marpi Cemetery. Saipan

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the **Construction of Generator Housing and Supply, Delivery and Installation of New 40KV Generator and Electrical Connections for the Marpi Public Cemetery**. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **October 06, 2015** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment to One Hundred Dollars (US\$100,000) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **October 23, 2015**, 2:00 p.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **October 27, 2015** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-16-IFB-001"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **November 05, 2015**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **November 05, 2015**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@dpw.com or camacho74@gmail.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 05, 2015** and must be received no later than **November 16, 2015**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time **November 19, 2015**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:30 a.m. local time, on **November 16, 2015**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **\$70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and

b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash

2) US Gov't Securities

3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange

4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and

5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Ninety (90) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred Dollars (US\$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.;

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, GOVERNOR
Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands

/s/ JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Case vs ex-Rota DCCA chief Manglona is dropped

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho dismissed yesterday the criminal charges against former Rota Department of Community and Cultural Affairs resident director Josepha Barcinas Manglona.

Camacho dismissed without prejudice the case against the 53-year-old Manglona at the request of the Office of the Attorney General. Dismissal without prejudice means the prosecution may re-file the case in the future.

NMTI seeks aid to rebuild facilities

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Technical Institute has yet to obtain any assistance to restore its damaged facilities more than two months after Typhoon Soudelor ravaged Saipan.

“The problem is that we are a non-profit organization so we are not eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency assistance and since we are not making enough money, we are not eligible for [a] U.S. Small Business Administration [loan],” NMTI chief executive officer Agnes McPhetres said.

NMTI twice tried to obtain assistance from the two agencies.

“We are not eligible for the two. As for what will happen next, I am not sure yet because we are trying to meet with the governor but it is kind of difficult to get an appointment [him],” she said.

McPhetres said the damage incurred by the school has not been calculated yet but her estimate is that it will total more than \$1 million.

“The biggest damage is that we lost one of the buildings. There are two buildings that are together at NMTI. One of them is down and that contains the auto mechanics classrooms, offices, and the workshop for the construction trade,” she said.

“We are trying to make it as affordable as possible by using our students in the construction trades to practice what they learn so that we can rebuild more affordably,” she said.

With the construction workshop down, McPhetres said it hinders the new course that NMTI introduced in June this year. The new course will provide the skills necessary for a graduate to be a maintenance person or a handyman.

“We are trying get help from the governor to try and help us to see what he can do as a type of assistance and maybe he has a way of getting assistance. As for SBA, we don’t have enough money to pay back [the loan] because the damage is a lot,” she said.

In granting the OAG’s motion to dismiss, Camacho vacated the bench trial scheduled for Oct. 15, 2015.

Assistant attorney general Matthew C. Baisley said the government believes the case should be dismissed in the interest of justice.

Baisley said Manglona has no objections to the motion.

Last week, Camacho rejected the second proposed plea deal that recommended a suspended sentence for Manglona, saying that imposing no jail time will have no rehabilitative, deterrence, retribution, or incapacitation effect on Manglona, considering that she is accused of using her position as Rota director of Aging to enrich herself.

The judge also noted Manglona’s prior criminal history.

Camacho rejected the first pro-

posed plea deal in August, finding it too lenient as it recommended a mere \$50 fine and no prison term.

Last Sept. 22, Baisley requested to reduce the original five criminal charges against Manglona to two. Camacho granted the request.

The amended information charges Manglona with theft by unlawful taking or disposition and possession or removal of government property.

Camacho said the allegations are that Manglona used her position as director or Aging to enrich herself by trading a publicly owned pool table in exchange for hollow blocks to build her house.

He said the pool table was being used at the Aging Center, a place that the CNMI’s elderly go to receive services as well as enjoy their golden years.

Man gets one year for burglarizing WSR, Office of the Public Defender

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Vincent Gaza Sanchez was slapped with a one-year prison term for burglarizing the William S. Reyes Elementary School in Chalan Kanoa and the Office of the Public Defender in Susupe.

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio sentenced the 20-year-old Sanchez last week to a total of 10 years in prison, all suspended except for one year, to be served without parole but with credit for time served.

Upon completing his sentence, Sanchez will be placed on probation for five years. He was ordered to pay a \$100 fine, plus court costs and probation fees.

Sanchez was ordered to pay his pro rata share of restitution to WSR Elementary School in the amount of \$1,858 and pay \$7,258 in restitution to the Office of the Public Defender.

Sanchez was required to perform 200 hours of community service, complete drug and anger management counseling, and seek assistance from the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc. to help manage his disability.

Sanchez was ordered to co-operate with the Office of the Attorney General and testify against co-defendant Ignacio Leon Guerrero and four juvenile co-defendants in the two cases.

In the WSR burglary case, Sanchez, along with three juveniles, stole equipment, student resources, and hardware tools. In the PDO burglary case, Sanchez entered the office several times and stole laptops, food, and clothing.

Kim-Tenorio said the circumstances of the cases, as well as Sanchez’s juvenile history, show that he is a threat to the community.

Although no one was physi-

cally injured by Sanchez’s actions, Kim-Tenorio said she is troubled by his audacity to burglarize community pillars such as places of learning and public service at times when resources are already limited.

“Additionally, the court is troubled by the example [Sanchez] sets for the juveniles he coaches to follow in his action,” she said.

Kim-Tenorio also noted that the presentence investigation report shows that Sanchez is developmentally delayed, both academically and socially. While Sanchez understands the concept of right and wrong, Kim-Tenorio said, he is susceptible to poor decision-making and vulnerable to inducement.

“Given defendant’s ability to admit to his crimes and show remorse, the court believes him to be suitable for rehabilitation, given the correct tools, support and guidelines,” the judge said.


Kim-Tenorio added that OPD’s written statement suggests that this community sympathizes for Sanchez’s circumstances and is prepared to forgive him for his actions.

In the WSR case, the Office of the Attorney General charged Sanchez with burglary, theft, and conspiracy to commit burglary and/or theft.


In the OPD case, the OAG charged the defendant with four counts of burglary, four counts of theft, and three counts of criminal mischief.

Sanchez pleaded guilty to two counts of burglary as part of a plea deal. He was represented by attorney Stephen Nutting. The government was represented by assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas.

Sanchez’s co-defendant, Ignacio Leon Guerrero Jr., also pleaded guilty to burglary last June 30 in connection with the WSR incident. He is awaiting sentencing.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. **15-042**

Opening Date: **Friday, October 05, 2015**
Closing Date: **Thursday, October 16, 2015**

Grants Administrator

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Executive Director or his/her designee. Reviews and prepares a wide variety of technical documents and reports such as impact statements, budgets, project reports, disputed accounts, schedules, and monthly status reports. May serve as records custodian for assigned area. Performs research and conducts studies related to departmental operations to include collecting and gathering data, analyzing data and making recommendations. Reviews operational procedures and assists in ensuring compliance with applicable codes, rules, regulations and laws. Collects, monitors and maintains a wide variety of database information; ensures organization and accessibility of data for reporting purposes. May monitor contract information and related expenditures. Serves as a liaison between assigned department and other departments and organizations; meets with representatives regarding issues or concerns; drafts responses to inquiries; and investigates identified issues of public/government concern. Assists with special projects related to departmental operations; prepares and delivers communication materials and presentations. Participates in developing and implementing policies and procedures related to departmental operations. Developing and writing grant specifications; Monitoring the implementation of grant funding; Analyzing and auditing grant related outcomes. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION: Executive Director’s Office, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$37,756.00 per annum to \$50,970.00 per annum.
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.
POSITION(S): One (1)

Minimum Requirements: Bachelor’s degree in Public or Business Administration, Accounting or related field as assigned. Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Research methods; Basic budgeting principles; Principles and practices related to assignment area; Customer service principles; Modern office technology. Skills in: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Reviewing and preparing a variety of technical reports and documents; Gathering information and conducting research; Analyzing data; Conducting studies, analyzing results and preparing recommendations; Monitoring and maintaining database information; Serving as a liaison with internal and external customers; Preparing and delivering communication materials and presentations; Drafting policies and procedures; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Ability to write and comprehend written documents related to utility projects and problems; spoken and written communication ability is essential. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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**Rally for
Mariana Resort
Save the Date
October 24 at 9am
(to be announced)**

MCS AlumKnights give back to their alma mater

Over the past few years, Mount Carmel School has seen an increase in the number of her alumni—dubbed “AlumKnights” after the school’s mascot—give back to their alma mater by teaching there. Fulfilling the dreams of pioneering teachers like Sr. Mary Louise Balzarini, these AlumKnights now make up almost a third of the faculty and staff at the school. What follows are the reflections of a few AlumKnight on what it’s been like to come home.

Jacqueline P. Che, ‘05

When not busy as the director of Institutional Effectiveness at Northern Marianas College, a member of the Pacific Century Fellows, and an active member of the island com-

munity, 2005 AlumKnight Jacqueline “Jackie” P. Che somehow finds time to both teach at her alma mater and serve on its board of directors. A teacher of Advanced Placement United States History for about three years now, Che runs down to the school from the college during her lunch hour to teach her course.

When asked what motivates her, Che said, “I agreed to teach because I love Mount Carmel School in general and these students especially because they are so eager and willing to learn. My work here at MCS is something I’m very passionate about, especially since I attended here for all 12 years and I feel I owe it to give back to a school that’s



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

When not busy as the director of Institutional Effectiveness at Northern Marianas College, Jacqueline “Jackie” P. Che teaches Advanced Placement United States History at Mount Carmel School.

given me so much.”

As an AlumKnight, Che is very proud of her alma mater. “We have amazing students who are proud of their school as well and very dedicated and motivated faculty, staff, and leaders.

“Whenever I come back to campus I see the love there and that love inspires me and makes me proud of the school. We have a long and rich legacy and I feel I’m doing my part to move that legacy forward.”

John Del Rosario, ‘06

Freelance writer, magazine editor, social media impresario, and political aficionado are just some of the many roles that 2006 AlumKnight John Del Rosario has held over the years. But that did not stop him from returning to his alma mater in 2014 to teach English and Journalism. John, or, as his students have come to call him, “Mr. Delro,” returned to his alma mater because of a promise he made when he graduated. He recalled that at his graduation ceremony, Bishop Emeritus Tomas A. Camacho “shook my hand and said, ‘Will you come back to teach?’ And so I said yes and knew that I had to come back sooner or later.”

a job; it’s my mission to see that ‘my kids’ move forward in life.”

Crystal Cing Cabrera, ‘05

Even while a student at her alma mater, 2005 AlumKnight Crystal Cing Cabrera got a taste of what it’s like to teach because back then, her mother, Abigail Cabrera, was teaching at the school. But now, Cabrera is in the front of the class teaching, and although her mother is a lifelong educator, teaching is something Cabrera never thought she would do.

“I wanted to do volunteer work on the weekends, but the principal, Mrs. [Frances] Taimanao said we don’t have an art teacher right now. I wasn’t sure if it would work out, but it did and here I am.”

Like Che, to teach at her alma mater, Cabrera runs over during her lunch breaks from her work at the Department of Public Works in architecture and engineering. Despite this challenge, Cabrera felt compelled to give back to the school. “Mount Carmel School has always had such a great art program. From 1st grade we were doing oil pastels with the Zepedas, and because of that program, I found my calling in architecture.”

However, she recalls that, at

WIOA Dislocated Worker Funding Program

If any of these categories apply to you, please contact WIA.

Category A: General Dislocated Workers. To qualify, an individual must meet the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment;
2. Is eligible for or has exhausted entitlement to unemployment compensation; OR has been employed or attached to the workforce for a duration sufficient to demonstrate to WIOA, but is not eligible for unemployment compensation due to insufficient earnings or having performed services for an employer that were not covered under a state unemployment compensation law; and
3. Is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.

Category B: Plant Closure. To qualify, an individual must meet one of the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment as a result of any permanent closure of, or any substantial layoff at, plant, facility, or enterprise;
2. Is employed at a facility at which the employer has made a general announcement that such facility close within 180 days; or
3. For purpose of eligibility to receive services other than training, intensive or supportive services under WIOA, is employed at a facility at which the employer has made general announcement that such facility will close.

Category C: Self Employed or Unemployed. To qualify, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Was self employed (including employment as a farmer, a rancher, or a fisherman) but is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community in which the individual resides or because of natural disasters.

Category D: is a displaced homemaker;

DISPLACED HOMEMAKER—The term “displaced homemaker” means an individual who has been providing unpaid services to family members in the home and who—

- (A) (i) has been dependent on the income of another family member but is no longer supported by that income; or (ii) is the dependent spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code) and whose family income is significantly reduced because of a deployment (as defined in section 991(b) of title 10, United States Code, or pursuant to paragraph (4) of such section), a call or order to active duty pursuant to a provision of law referred to in section 101(a)(13)(B) of title 10, United States Code, a permanent change of station, or the service-connected (as defined in section 101(16) of title 38, United States Code) death or disability of the member; and
- (B) is unemployed or underemployed and is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment.

Category E:

1. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code), and who has experienced a loss of employment as a direct result of relocation to accommodate a permanent change in duty station of such member; or
2. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty and who meets the criteria described in Displaced Homemaker Definition (B).

You may be able to qualify for services under WIOA's Dislocated Worker Funding Program. All other program eligibility requirements apply.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Saipan: (670) 664-1704/1707/1708/1757 • Fax: (670) 664-1710
Email: gov.wia@pticom.com



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

AlumKnight John Del Rosario teaches English and Journalism at Mount Carmel School.

Since coming back, Del Rosario has appreciated the support and room to grow that he has been granted as a teacher. “The school gives teachers the creative control to do what they do, which gives me an opportunity to express myself, to teach in the style that I want to teach.” In particular, Del Rosario appreciates the opportunity to bridge the gap between his generation of AlumKnights and the current generation of Knights.

Above all, though, Del Rosario values the rapport he has developed with his students. “At one point, I tweeted something about the students and I referred to them as ‘my kids.’ Something happened there,” he said. “That’s when I realized this thing, showing up from 7am to 4pm everyday is more than just

first, her students didn’t feel the same way about art. “On the first day, everyone was like, ‘I’m not an artist.’” That soon changed though. “Now my students that have never drawn before are surprising me by not only applying what I’m teaching but also creating their own pieces.” This has only reinforced her belief that “everyone is an artist it’s just about developing your skill and having a creative outlet.”

Other AlumKnights

Future stories will feature reflections from other AlumKnights who are giving back to their alma mater, including the following: Fred Guerrero ’84, John Blanco ’90, Galvin DeLeon Guerrero ’91, Roxanne Diaz ’94, Tasia Sablan ’05, Francine Atalig ’05, and Kevin Bautista ’11. (MCS)

Japanese sumo wrestlers visit Saipan

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The immaculate beach side of Hyatt Regency Saipan was transformed into an impromptu *dohyō*, or sumo wrestling ring, last Saturday, with three visiting Japanese sumo wrestlers giving spectators a lighthearted look at one of Japan's oldest sporting traditions.

Kids and adults were given a chance to meet—and mock wrestle—with Kyokutenho Masaru, one of Japan's favorite sumo wrestlers, along with two other reigning champions from Tomozuna-beya, a group of sumo wrestlers.

The children made gleeful attempts to push the wrestlers out of the ring and even the adults in the audience took turns trying—and failing—to make the three champion wrestlers budge. The sumo wrestlers themselves frolicked with the kids, swinging them in the air and flipping them on their backs, to squeals of delight.

The sumo wrestlers' visit to Saipan was the brainchild of Chiaki Nagumo, Marianas tourism ambassador and chairman of the Saipan Japan Cultural Exchange Program Association, who promoted the event as a way to help Saipan residents recover from the devastation of Typhoon Soudelor.

"It makes me happy, very, very happy. Especially because the kids, the smile on their faces, you can see their excitement," said Nagumo.

Because of the visit, the wrestlers are now thinking of training on island during the winter. Nagumo said Kyokutenho is considering bringing his team of 30 wrestlers here.

"He is very, very impressed of this island. It met the requirements for training, the people are good, the atmosphere is good, and the weather is good," Nagumo said.

Food was also served at Saturday's event, with Hyatt providing *chanko nabe* or hot pot soup and *onigiri* or rice ball to the attendees.

Other sponsors of the event were Kinpachi Restaurant, Himawari, and Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

Other sponsors of the event were Kinpachi Restaurant, Himawari, and Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

Galvez Bank are open for public use. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. (PR)

Chamber meeting this Wednesday

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be holding its October general membership meeting this Wednesday, Oct. 7, at the Seaside Hall of Kanoa Resort. Speakers will include the Department of Public Works, FEMA (Private Affairs Liaison and Mitigation Branch Director), and a representative from CNMI CARE. Luncheon will commence at 11:30am and the meeting will begin promptly at noon. (SCC)

SLLB 2016 board elections on Oct. 10

Saipan Little League Baseball, Inc. will hold its general membership meeting for the election of 2016 board members on Oct. 10, 9am at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium pavilion. All managers, coaches, parents, and interested individuals are encouraged to attend. For more information, call Annie Flores at 285-1219 or Piding Tenorio at 285-1024. (PR)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

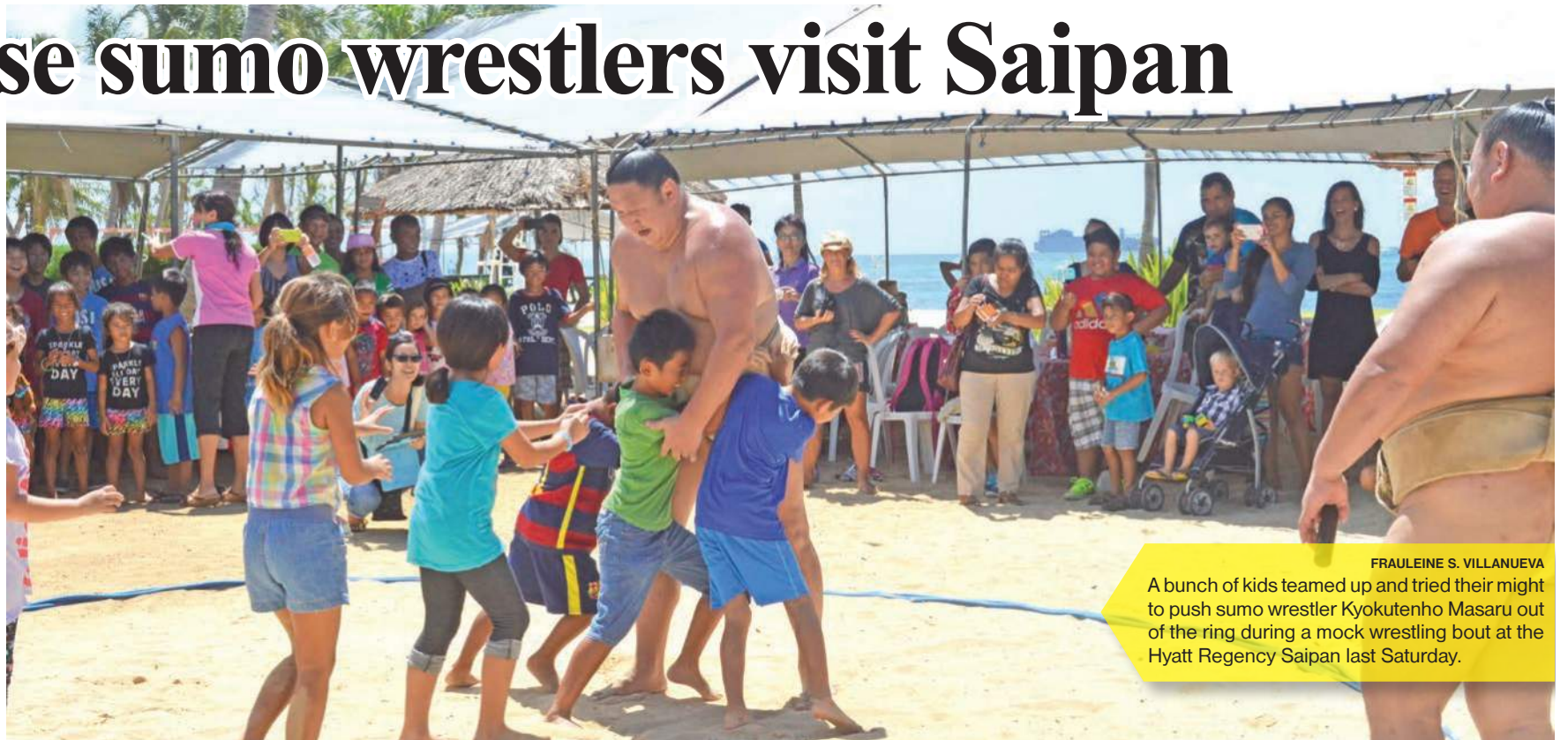
Kagman Elementary School Open House

The teachers and staff of Kagman Elementary School would like to invite the public to its annual Parent/Student Open House on Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015, at 4:30pm. The Open House will allow parents and students to be informed and engage in fun-filled activities with prizes regarding our English Language Arts Curriculum, STEM Curriculum, and School Policies. Light refreshments will be provided. In addition, all parents and guardians who attend will have their names collected for the end-of-school-year raffle drawing at a chance to win tablets, e-readers, and other cool techy stuff. (PR)

Navy training at Warning Area 517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Oct. 7-8, from noon to 8pm. The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the area during the dates and times indicated.

W-517 is activated south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. All vessels are advised to remain clear of W-517 south of latitude 12° 40' 00"N. Santa Rosa Reef and



FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
A bunch of kids teamed up and tried their might to push sumo wrestler Kyokutenho Masaru out of the ring during a mock wrestling bout at the Hyatt Regency Saipan last Saturday.

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SHIRTS ARE STILL AVAILABLE AT PARTICIPATING OUTLETS

Opinion

Hafa Adail

Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

The pope sends wrong message in meeting with Kim Davis

A common theme of commentaries on Pope Francis' triumphant visit to the United States was that he found a way to preach the Christian Gospel without being dragged into the culture wars that have done so much to divide Americans. Those rave reviews need to be revised with the Vatican's confirmation that Francis met privately with Kim Davis, the Rowan County, Ky., clerk who invoked "God's authority" in refusing to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Davis served five days in jail after a federal judge held her in contempt of court.

It's part of a pope's job description to console those who have been imprisoned; a highlight of Francis' visit was his moving encounter with inmates at the Curran-Fromhold Correctional Facility, Philadelphia's largest prison. But his meeting with the unrepentant Davis inevitably created the impression that the pope agreed with her assertion of a religious right to defy the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling legalizing same-sex marriage. That impression is strengthened by comments the pope made in an interview on his plane back to Rome. In response to a question, he said conscientious objection "is a human right, and if a government official is a human person, he has that right."

Obviously the pope is free to express his opinions about political matters, as he did when he called on Congress to abolish the death penalty. But Americans of all faiths also have the right to take issue with what he says. According to Davis' lawyers, the pope thanked her for her courage and exhorted her to "stay strong"—sentiments that sound like an endorsement of the extreme view that a government official may ignore her duties and defy a court order.

That wasn't the only hint that the pope was embracing the long-standing (and in our view overblown) claim that religiously liberty in this country is under siege. While in Washington, Francis also visited members of the Little Sisters of the Poor. That Catholic charity has refused to complete the paperwork necessary to obtain an exemption from a federal requirement that large employers include contraception in their health insurance plans. (The contraceptives are covered instead by a third party.)

Interestingly, the pope chose not to adopt the alarmist language of some Catholic bishops in his speech on religious liberty at Philadelphia's Independence Hall. While he insisted that religious groups must have a voice in the "public square," his emphasis was on the importance of people from many faiths joining their voices in "calling for peace, tolerance and respect for the dignity and rights of others."

His visit with Davis and his seeming endorsement of her defiance send a different, and deeply disappointing, message.

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Pipe dreams hit reality in Syria

In 1992, not long after the Soviet Union collapsed, I wandered through the massive Russian Embassy compound in Damascus. As a center of Soviet power off limits to Westerners, it had been a beehive of activity, with about 5,000 civilian and military advisers. Now it was virtually deserted.

As news flows in about the new Russian military buildup in Syria, I can't help thinking how delicious this reversal must be to Vladimir Putin, who has openly rued the collapse of the Soviet Union. Putin's yearning to re-exert Soviet — whoops, I mean Russian — global influence is no secret.

So why is it so hard for President Obama to understand the Russian leader's intentions in the Middle East?

Having blindsided U.S. officials with his sudden infusion of tanks, planes and missiles into Syria, Putin urged the world this week to rally behind the vicious regime of Bashar al-Assad. In a UN speech, Putin proposed a "broad international coalition" (no doubt led by Moscow) that would fight terrorism — like "the anti-Hitler coalition" in World War II.

There's only one problem with this formula: Neither Putin nor Assad is interested in taking on the Islamic State. Indeed, the Russian president knows well but cares not that Assad's war crimes against civilians have fueled Sunni support for the Islamic State.

Rather, Moscow seeks to firm up Assad's wobbly hold on power while building an unprecedented air and naval presence on the Mediterranean and projecting himself as a world leader. He also hopes to corral Obama into helping him achieve that goal.

What's astonishing is how the administration has failed to read Putin. Despite frequent meetings between Secretary of State John Kerry and his Russian counterpart, Sergei Lavrov, U.S. officials were caught by surprise by Moscow's military actions in Syria. They were equally startled by Russian air strikes there on Wednesday—aimed not at the Islamic State but at anti-Assad militias, including some backed by Washington and its allies.

The administration's somnolence can only be explained by its wishful-thinking policy toward Moscow. In 2013, Putin saved Obama from having to act on his own red line and bomb Syrian military sites after Assad killed more than 1,000 civilians with chemical weapons.

Seeing Obama waffle and turn to a reluctant Congress to greenlight the strikes, Putin offered him a face-saver by pressing Assad to give up (most of) his chemical weapons. Never mind that Assad continues to kill tens of thousands of civilians with barrel bombs dropped on hospitals and markets, and still uses chlorine gas shells that aren't covered by the chemical weapons accord.

Despite administration denials, some officials still seem to nurture false hopes that Russia can rescue Obama's failed Syria policy. They dream that Moscow will squeeze Assad to negotiate a peace deal in which the Syrian leader agrees to exit after a transition and be replaced by a government of regime and opposition figures. With

By TRUDY RUBIN
The Philadelphia Inquirer

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an inclusive government, so the thinking goes, Sunni support for the Islamic State would fade.

Putin's U.N. speech and Moscow's military actions in Syria make clear that this hope is a pipe dream. Like Assad, the Russian leader considers any opposition to the Syrian regime to be the work of terrorists. To him, the 2011 peaceful uprising of middle-class Syrians who sought a better government was nothing but a Western plot.

So, as Wednesday's bombing made clear, Putin will help Assad's efforts to push back against non-Islamic State militias, while protecting his hold on Damascus and the Syrian coast. Russian air support will make it hard for Arab states to supply anti-Assad militias.

As for the Islamic State, the Syrian military hasn't fought it in the past and won't in the future. Assad needs the Islamic State to survive so he can claim that the world needs him. As for the Russians, they won't commit ground troops to fight Islamic State jihadists. In the words of Andrei Kolesnikov, of the Carnegie Endowment's Moscow Center: "I think Russia is not ready to fight a thousand kilometers from its borders. It would be a repetition of the Afghanistan story."

Instead, Putin has made his demands clear: The West and Sunni Arab states must cease their opposition to Assad, and press their Syrian militia allies to accept the status quo ante at peace talks.

But this scenario, too, is a pipe dream. Syria's Sunnis will never again accept a regime that has committed staggering atrocities against tens of thousands of civilians. Nor can Syria's myriad non-Islamic State militias easily be shut down. The fighting could continue for a long time, with the Islamic State being the main beneficiary.

Putin probably knows his Plan A can't work, so I suspect that (unlike Obama) he has a Plan B: Forget diplomacy. Solidify Assad's hold on Damascus and the coast by force. Create an Assad-stan on the Mediterranean, which will become a territorial base from which Russia can exert powerful new regional influence.

Let Sunnis kill each other, let the refugees keep flowing. Wait for the West and Arab states to come begging for intelligence and cooperation against the Islamic State.

The only slim hope for surcease is that all sides might agree to a temporary ceasefire in place—but the Russians' arrival may rule out this option.

Clarification on intent of 5-pct. salary hike for law enforcers

This is intended to clarify the misconception of the intent of Public Law 19-8, Section 704(1) and its corresponding appropriations. In his transmittal message dated Sept. 29, 2015, to the House speaker and Senate president, the governor informed the Legislature that he signed into law, with the exception of several disapproved parts, House Bill 19-086, HD6, SS1, CCSI (Fiscal Year 2016 CNMI Budget Act). The budget act became Public Law 19-8. One of the parts that the governor disapproved was Section 704(f), which authorized a 5-percent salary increase for law enforcement officers.

Section 704(f) specifically states that: "Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, 5 percent of the law enforcement personnel budget appropriations of the Department of Public Safety, Department of Fire and EMS, Department of Corrections, Division of Custom and

Quarantine, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Commerce ABTC and Enforcement and Compliance officers shall be allocated to provide for a 5-percent salary increase of current law enforcement personnel as provided in this subsection."

The Senate intended to recognize and commend all law enforcement officers for their untiring and dedicated service to the people of the Commonwealth. Although public employees deserve to be recognized and commended for their hard work, law enforcement officers are expected to serve and report to duty during accidents, emergency situations, after working hours, during disasters, and other anytime law enforcement services are required by the public.

The Senate further intended to recognize the Division of Customs for seizing and intercepting over 23 lbs of crystal methamphetamine, commonly known as "ice," worth over \$4.3 million in street value in July 2015. Additionally, because of the increase in construction activities in the CNMI, the CNMI ports, especially the sea-ports, will see an increase in transportation activities requiring more inspections. The quarantine officers, who are tasked with ensuring that materials arriving into the CNMI ports are fully inspected and clear of unwanted insects and brown tree snakes, will also execute more inspections to ensure the public's safety.

Typhoon Soudelor devastated Saipan in August 2015 and law enforcement officers were the first persons to respond to the aftermath of the disaster. Two months later, law enforcement officers continue to assist with the recovery efforts including assisting government agencies responsible for removing debris around the islands, directing traffic during peak times and school hours, securing the highways for the CUC line crews, and patrolling areas still without power. We all owe a debt of gratitude our law enforcement officers.

The Senate intended to express its gratitude to law enforcement officers by including Section 704(f) in the fiscal year 2016 CNMI budget, which authorized a 5-percent increase for law enforcement officers and increased their personnel appropriations accordingly. The Senate intended to authorize the 5-percent salary increase for all law enforcement officers within the named departments, divisions, and agencies listed in Section 704(f) as mandated by *Inos v. Tenorio*.

The case of *Inos v. Tenorio* involved a conflict of authority between the governor and the mayor of Rota regarding Art. III, Section 17 of the NMI Constitution also known as "Amendment 25."

The court in *Inos v. Tenorio* makes it clear that: "Section 17(a) requires a mayor to ensure that resident department heads faithfully execute their duties to execute the policy directives of the central government...As used in this sentence, Commonwealth government policies refer to the policies of the central government mandated by the governor through his department secretaries. Thus, resident department heads work under a constitutional obligation to implement the policies issued by their superiors, the secretaries of the executive departments. Moreover, mayors have a supervisory responsibility over each of these resident department heads to ensure that they fulfill their responsibilities."

See *Inos v. Tenorio*, Civil Action No. 94-1289, Memorandum and Decision and Declaratory Judgment at 22 (June 14, 1995). *Inos* makes it clear that the policies of a central department must be carried out at the First and Second Senatorial District resident department level as well.

Notwithstanding the court's decision in *Inos v. Tenorio*, the governor in his transmittal message disapproved Section 704(f) stating in pertinent part: "Section 704(f) is disapproved as it is not equitable. This section provides a 5-percent across-the-board increase for law enforcement employed by the central government. The salary increase does not, however, account for law enforcement officers funded by the First and Second Senatorial District appropriations. This is not fair and will create morale problems for law enforcement. Moreover, requiring the law enforcement agencies to use 5-percent of their personnel budget to find this mandate would require agencies to cut staff and would run counter to the 25-percent cap on overtime. This is not workable. Along with this condition, the accompanying appropriation is also vetoed..."

By JUDE U. HOFSCHEIDER
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Jude U. Hofschneider is a senator of the 19th Legislature and chairman of the Senate Committee on Fiscal Affairs.

Although the First and Second Senatorial Districts were not specifically listed in Section 704(1), it was understood by the Senate and clear from *Inos v. Tenorio* that a salary increase for law enforcement officers at a central department includes the officers at the resident departments within the First and Second Senatorial Districts because they are the same department. It was further not necessary and contrary to *Inos v. Tenorio* to specifically list the First and Second Senatorial Districts in Section 704(f).

Moreover, the personnel appropriations for all law enforcement officers included the additional funds required to implement the 5-percent salary increase. An examination of the personnel appropriations set forth in Schedule A attached to Public Law 19-8 will confirm that the departments, divisions, and agencies listed under Section 704(f) including those in the First and Second Senatorial Districts incorporated the additional appropriations for the 5-percent salary increase for law enforcement officers. Specifically, the following amounts were included in the personnel appropriations for the First and Second Senatorial Districts:

A. Rota:	
1. Customs, business unit 1152	\$6,597
2. Agriculture (Quarantine), business unit 1412	\$3,420
3. Police, business unit 1352	\$21,728
4. Fire & EMS, business unit 1353	\$6,245
5. Fish & Wildlife, business unit 1422	\$2,931

B. Tinian:	
1. Customs, business unit 1151	\$3,465
2. Agriculture (Quarantine), business unit 1411	\$3,631
3. Police, business unit 1351	\$23,848
4. Fire & EMS, business unit 1351A	\$11,983
5. Fish & Wildlife, business unit 1421	\$2,649

The total amounts of \$40,921 and \$45,576 (inclusive of benefits and 1 percent OPA fee) for the 5-percent salary increase for the affected law enforcement officers of the First and Second Senatorial Districts, respectively, are clearly included in the corresponding FY 2016 personnel appropriations for Rota and Tinian.

Contrary to the governor's veto message, Section 704(f) and the corresponding personnel appropriations of law enforcement officers include a 5-percent salary increase for every law enforcement officer in the Commonwealth as well as the additional funding necessary to pay for the 5-percent salary increase. Moreover, the affected departments, divisions, and agencies would not be required to cut staff or exceed the 25-percent cap on overtime in order to implement the 5-percent increase as stated by the governor in his veto message.

The governor's misunderstanding of the intent of Section 704(f) and conclusion that the additional funds necessary for the 5-percent increase must be taken from the personnel appropriations of other employees led him to line item veto Section 704(f). However, the governor made one correct statement—that there will be morale problems for law enforcement—with the veto of Section 704(f). At least 100 law enforcement officers and personnel attended all the public hearings and sessions of the Senate and House of Representatives supporting the passage of Section 704(f).

The Senate Standing Committee on Fiscal Affairs hopes this statement clarifies any misconception regarding the intent of Public Law 19-8, Section 704(f) and corresponding appropriations for the 5-percent salary increase for all law enforcement officers in the Commonwealth.

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.

Twofer YoYo Ma and one more sonnet for the Donald

"Stupid" "Loser" Says The Deal Master

So who is smarter than you Donald Trump?
Who is a better deal maker in all 50 states?
Solving campaign problems = your personal money pump
No campaign reform needed or \$100 dollar plates
You are all alone on your golden throne
Strictly no PACS, a private money user
Good for you, get it all gone and blown
Careful though you might wind up a loser
On foreign policy you are grasping at straws
What's so wrong making deals with China?
Blubbling babble continues from your jaws
About women candidates looks and their vagina
Go back to real estate where you are the master
Your campaign bluster and bombast is a disaster

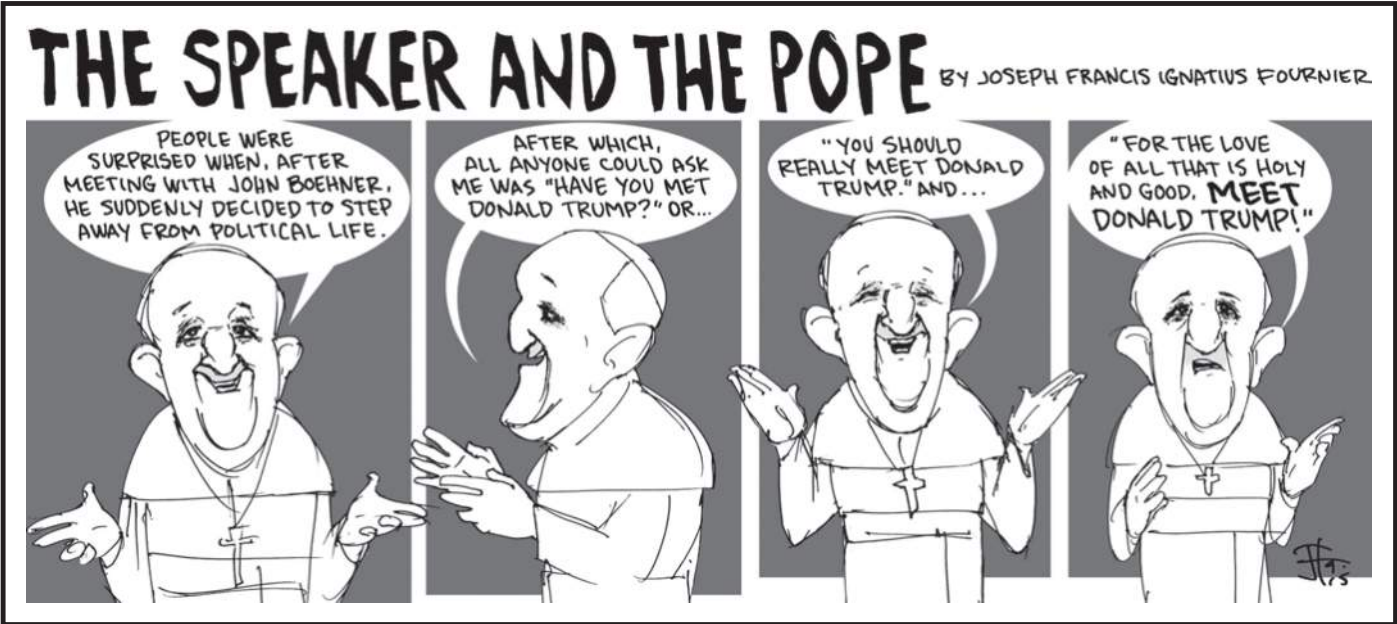
And two to go for YoYo: a rap/sonnet for YoYo Ma's 60th birthday on Oct. 7, 2015.

Yo YOYO
go go mo & mo
cello
you're a
mellow fellow
Ma
beautiful bowing
you have have *(yo yo)
a horse*(ma)
of course
between your legs
you ride it
with a bow
we know

*In Mandarin/Putonghua 'yo' can mean 'have' and 'ma' can mean 'horse'. Here is a modern sonnet for YoYo Ma's 60th birthday, Oct. 7.






Yo, Ma YoYo*
more and more por favor
GO GO GO GO
take care of muscles sore
please Mister Yoyo Ma
keep it up serious and mellow
we thank your Ma and Pa
please do not stop bowing that cello
solo on J.S. Bach's cello suites
and all along the desert Silk Road
African and Appalachian treats
Tan Dun's Tigers and Dragons all explode
xie xie for taking all those different directions
looking forward to more musical resurrections

*The Chinese, Koreans, and Japanese put the patronymic name first.

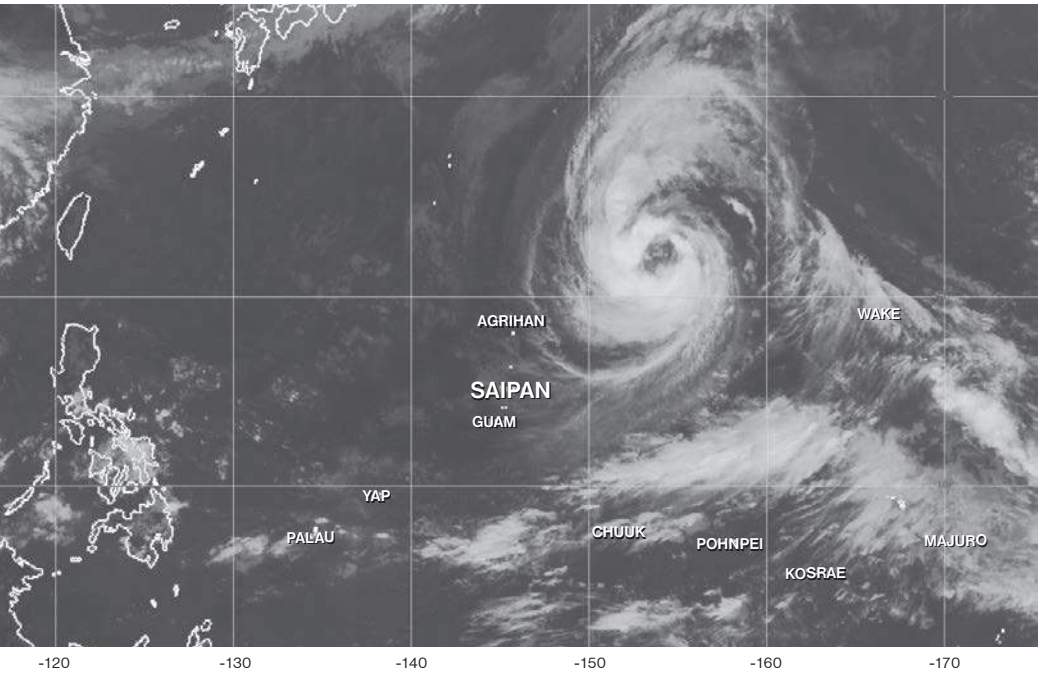


The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 Sunny. West winds around 17 mph.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	 Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲82° ▼76°	▲83° ▼78°	▲82° ▼77°	▲82° ▼76°	▲83° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Choi-wan (23W) is centered 175 miles south of Minami Tori Shima near 22N154E, moving west at 15 mph with maximum sustained winds of 65 mph. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen from the center out to 300 miles in the southern semicircle and out to 400 miles in the northern semicircle. Otherwise, bands of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present up to 500 miles from the center. For more information on Choi-wan, refer to bulletins issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM and the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW. A monsoon trough curves northeastward through 11N130E to TS Choi-wan at 22N154E, then heads southeastward through the date line at 13N. Widely-scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen south of the trough near Koror and Chuuk within 70 miles of a line from 7N130E to 7N155E, and closer to the equator south of a line from 4N145E to 4N162E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Partly Sunny	▲86	▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼81
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼80
Chuuk	Partly Sunny	▲87	▼81
Pohnpei	Partly Sunny	▲87	▼80
Kosrae	Partly Sunny	▲85	▼82
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼82

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Sunny	▲62	▼51
Beijing	Sunny	▲79	▼51
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼79
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼72
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲63	▼58
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼61
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	▲87	▼78
Melbourne	Fair	▲89	▼61
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼74
New York	Sunny	▲71	▼53
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲74	▼56
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼60
Busan	Sunny	▲74	▼54
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼63
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲74	▼53
San Francisco	Fair	▲68	▼58
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲76	▼46
Tokyo	Fair	▲68	▼55
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲73	▼49



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
2:03 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
9:33 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
4:56 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
10:41 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Wednesday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	6:02 PM
Friday	6:08 AM	6:01 PM
Saturday	6:08 AM	6:00 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	12:29 AM	1:31 PM
Wednesday	1:20 AM	2:16 PM
Thursday	2:10 AM	2:58 PM
Friday	2:58 AM	3:38 PM
Saturday	3:45 AM	4:17 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 2, 2015

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4	UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6	7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7	OZ6053	7:55pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5	OZ625	8:20pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7				
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	1, 3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
OZ6063/701	2:25am	11:05am	3, 4, 6 via ICN	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	3:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/6053	12:15pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:40pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM	UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM	UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM	UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ6063	2:25am	6:00am	3, 4, 6	OZ722/6053	1:10pm	1:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ6063/721	2:25am	11:50am	3, 4, 6 via ICN	UA180/5039	9:55pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
OZ626/721	3:20am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:35pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM				
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM				
UA5039/179	2:20pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM				
UA5078/179	3:10pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
			8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
			9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily						
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily						
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						

Business

AP ANALYSIS: Dozens of deaths likely from VW pollution dodge

WASHINGTON (AP)—Volkswagen's pollution-control chicanery has not just been victimless tinkering, killing between five and 20 people in the United States annually in recent years, according to an Associated Press statistical and computer analysis.

The software that the company admitted using to get around government emissions limits allowed VWs to spew enough pollution to cause somewhere between 16 and 94 deaths over seven years, with the annual count increasing more recently as more of the diesels were on the road. The total cost has been well over \$100 million.

That's just in the United States. It's likely far deadlier and costlier in Europe, where more VW diesels were sold, engineers said. Scientists and experts said the death toll in Europe could be as high as hundreds each year, though they caution that it is hard to take American health and air quality computer models and translate them to a more densely populated Europe.

"Statistically, we can't point out who died because of this pol-

icy, but some people have died or likely died as a result of this," said Carnegie Mellon environmental engineer professor Peter Adams. He calculates the cost of air pollution with a sophisticated computer model that he and the AP used in its analysis.

BERLIN (AP)—German Chancellor Angela Merkel has called Volkswagen's emissions-rigging scandal a "far-reaching event" and demanded the world's largest automaker quickly investigate it.

Merkel told German public radio Deutschlandfunk on Sunday she hopes "that VW quickly establishes the needed transparency and clear things up."

The extent of the fallout from the scandal, which erupted Sept. 18 when the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said VW had cheated on tests of its diesel cars, remains unclear as do the costs to Volkswagen. Longtime CEO Martin Winterkorn quit last month, but said he was aware of no wrongdoing on his part.

Computer software allowed

Volkswagen deception

Volkswagen admitted that it intentionally installed software programmed to switch engines to a cleaner mode during official emissions testing. The software then switches off again, enabling cars to drive more powerfully on the road while emitting as much as 40 times the legal pollution limit.

Volkswagen AG stock
VW's share price was down 16.8 percent today at 111.2 euros and near a four-year low. The company has lost almost 25 billion euros two days.



Affected diesel models
The allegations cover roughly 11 million worldwide and around 482,000 diesel passenger cars sold in the United States since 2008



- Jetta (model years 2009 – 2015)
- Beetle (model years 2009 – 2015)
- Audi A3 (model years 2009 – 2015)
- Golf (model years 2009 – 2015)
- Passat (model years 2014-2015)

Graphic: Staff, TNS

VW diesel cars to spew between 10 to 40 times more nitrogen oxides (NOx) than allowed by regulation, making this "clearly a concern for air quality and public health," said Janet McCabe, acting air quality chief for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Nitrogen oxides mostly form

smog—that murky, dirty air that makes it hard to see and for some people to breathe—but also amplify a deadlier, larger problem: tiny particles of soot. Numerous medical studies show those tiny particles cause about 50,000 deaths a year in the United States, mostly from heart problems.

Nitrogen oxides can travel hundreds of miles, so pollution spewed in Pittsburgh can be felt on the East Coast, Adams said.

Experts calculate how much pollution costs society by looking at the value of lost lives. In this case, Adams and other said the lost lives—valued at \$8.6 million apiece—overwhelm other costs such as lost work days or hospital costs. The overall annual cost of the extra pollutants from the VW diesels ranged from \$40 million to \$170 million, environmental engineering professors calculated.

"Even the small increase in NOx from VW diesel emissions is likely to have worsened pollution along the roadways where they have traveled, and affected the lives of hundreds of thousands of people," said Dan Greenbaum, president of the Health Effects Institute in Boston.

"To say millions of people of people are breathing poor air as the result of that is not off the mark," said Greenbaum, who runs the institute that is funded by both the EPA and the auto industry to serve as an independent arbiter of the science.

In a response Saturday night to an earlier request for comment, Volkswagen said the EPA has noted that the affected vehicles do not present a safety hazard and are legal to drive. "General allegations regarding links between NOx emissions from these affected

vehicles and specific health effects are unverified. We have received no confirmed reports that the emissions from such vehicles caused any actual health problem," the company said in a statement.

The calculations should be put in context of air that is getting dramatically cleaner in the United States, experts said. Also, the deaths from extra pollution are dwarfed by the 35,000 people in the U.S. a year who die in auto accidents and are closer to the annual U.S. death toll of spider or snake bites.

The AP calculated how much pollution was spewed year by year, starting with that broad 10 times to 40 times emissions level estimate from the EPA, then factoring in mileage and car number totals from EPA, the car company and Kelley Blue Book.

The results show an upper and lower limit of extra nitrogen oxides pollution allowed by VW's subterfuge. The AP took those figures to scientists who previously created a sophisticated computer program that looks at air movement and numerous epidemiological studies on the health effects of pollutants. The result was a rough estimate on deaths and costs to society based on a certain amount of pollution triggering each death.

Co-worker's being harassed but is scared to report the issue

Q: One of my colleagues is being sexually harassed by a male co-worker. "Lori" recently confided that "Ryan" has been making sexual comments to her on a regular basis. When I overheard some of his remarks, I was completely taken aback. I advised Lori to go to our boss, but she is reluctant to do this.

We work in a very small section of a large government agency, so Lori fears that reporting Ryan will make things uncomfortable. Also, our manager tends to ignore problems in the hope they will disappear, so he might not do anything. Having been harassed myself in the past, I would really like to help Lori. What can I do?

A: Fortunately, your ineffectual boss is not the only recourse. Virtually every government agency is covered by federal sexual harassment law, so someone is responsible for investigating complaints. To identify that person, you should contact your human resources department.

If Lori goes to HR, you might offer to accompany her, both for moral support and to validate her story. Your firsthand account of Ryan's behavior may help to prevent a frustrating "he said, she said" debate. But if Lori still prefers not to make an official report, perhaps you can provide some helpful coaching.

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.



Instead of tolerating these improper comments, Lori should calmly inform Ryan that his suggestive remarks are inappropriate and must stop immediately. She doesn't need to be confrontational, but she does need to be firm. She should avoid responding to off-color jokes or flirtatious banter, because that will only encourage him.

Finally, if you wish, you could actually file your own complaint. By making sexually explicit comments in your presence, Ryan is subjecting you to harassment as well. You may not be able to speak for Lori, but you have every right to speak for yourself.

Q: After I complained about a co-worker, I became an outcast in my office. "Sharon" helped me learn the ropes when I was new, but now I'm tired of her attitude. She makes comments about my work, even though I'm doing nothing wrong. I finally asked our boss to tell her to leave me alone.

Now Sharon and her friends no longer talk to me. They chat and laugh right beside my desk without even looking in my direction. When they go to lunch, I am never invited. My friends and family say I should quit. Do you agree?

A: Leaving one job before finding another is usually a bad idea. So if these "mean girl" co-workers are your only problem, perhaps you should try to repair the relationship. However, you need to realize that you are not exactly blameless here.

Your complaint concerned a personal irritation, not a business problem, so involving your manager was inappropriate. For that, you should offer Sharon an apology. If you seem sincerely contrite, perhaps she will welcome you back into the fold.

The lesson to be learned is that whining to the boss has a tendency to backfire. In this case, your manager told Sharon to leave you alone, and that's precisely what she did.

Bernanke: Wall St execs should have gone to jail for crisis

WASHINGTON (AP)—Former Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke says some Wall Street executives should have gone to jail for their roles in the financial crisis that gripped the country in 2008 and triggered the Great Recession.

Billions of dollars in fines have been levied against major banks and brokerage firms in the wake of the economic meltdown that was in large part triggered by reckless lending and shady securities dealings that blew up a housing bubble.

But in an interview with USA Today published Sunday, Bernanke said he thinks that in addition to the corporations, individuals should have been held more accountable.

10,000 protest in Moldova over missing \$1.5 billion

CHISINAU, Moldova (AP)—About 10,000 people staged an anti-government protest in Moldova's capital on Sunday, demanding a probe into the up to \$1.5 billion that disappeared from three of the country's banks last year.

Some protesters scuffled with police and tried to push their way into Parliament. Protesters gathered in a main square in Chisinau for the fifth consecutive week of anti-government demonstrations, which began on Sept. 6.

Protesters want a probe into

"It would have been my preference to have more investigations of individual actions because obviously everything that went wrong or was illegal was done by some individual, not by an abstract firm," Bernanke said.

Asked if someone should have gone to jail, the former Fed chairman replied, "Yeah, I think so." He did not, however, name any individual he thought should have been prosecuted and noted that the Federal Reserve is not a law-enforcement agency.

Bernanke is promoting his new 600-page memoir, "The Courage to Act: A Memoir of a Crisis and Its Aftermath," which is scheduled to be published Monday.

He began the book after leaving the Fed in 2014. The memoir

details his take on the crisis in which the government took over mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and provided hundreds of billions in aid to the biggest U.S. financial institutions.

The Associated Press obtained an early copy of the book last week. He writes that the taxpayer-provided bailouts of banks and Wall Street firms were hugely unpopular, but says they were necessary to avoid an economic catastrophe.

"I certainly was not eager to bail out Wall Street and I had no reason to want to bailout Wall Street itself," he told USA Today. "But we did it because we knew that if the financial system collapsed, the economy would immediately follow."

the missing money and for those responsible to be prosecuted. The losses were covered by state reserves in Moldova, one of Europe's poorest countries.

Vasile Nastase, a leader of the Dignity and Truth non-governmental organization which has staged the protests said: "From tomorrow, we will declare acts of civil disobedience." He urged Moldovans not to pay bills, and to go on strike in state institutes, such as schools. "We will block this government."

Protesters are also demanding early elections and for the

president, the prime minister and others to resign.

Separately, in the past 24 hours, two crews from Russia's NTV television channel have not been allowed to enter Moldova. They were stopped at the airport and later sent back to Moscow, the station reported. Moldovan authorities said they did not have local press accreditation.

On Saturday, two pro-Russian parties erected about 250 tents near Parliament, blocking the capital's main street. They took the tents down Sunday.

Nation

Oregon shooter showed little sympathy in calculated killings

ROSEBURG, Ore. (AP)—The gunman had already shot several students at close range when he stood inches from Lacey Scroggins and demanded she stand up.

It was only the fourth day of community college for the 18-year-old aspiring surgeon. She was face down, her head tucked between her outstretched arms, among dead and dying classmates.

Scroggins could hear someone gurgling. She felt the weight of mortally wounded Treven Anspach against her, the 20-year-old's blood flowing onto her clothing.

She prayed and played dead, frozen to the floor. The killer stepped over her and shot someone else.

In a rampage lasting about 10 minutes, Christopher Harper-Mercer took nine lives Thursday morning in chilling fashion before killing himself as officers closed in, placing the small town of Roseburg among settings that have become infamous for inexplicable violence.

In addition to slain English

professor Lawrence Levine, the dead and nine wounded were students young and old—some high school aged, others just beginning college and some starting over after a broken marriage, drug abuse or in hopes of a new career.

The rural Umpqua Community College on nearly 100 acres of pastureland along the North Umpqua River has about 3,200 students in this southwestern Oregon community, where the struggling timber industry is no longer seen as a path to the future. Its website said it offered “a peaceful, safe atmosphere.”

The school term had just begun and Levine's 10 a.m. introductory composition class was underway when Mercer-Harper arrived on campus not with books, but with a small arsenal of weapons that included five handguns, a semi-automatic rifle, five magazines of ammunition and a flak jacket.

The young man was described as an awkward loner who had flunked out of Army basic training and lived with his



mother. His social media profile suggested he was frustrated with organized religion and had studied mass shootings.

Those who knew him said they never expected what would happen next.

Scroggins heard a pop and noticed a hole in a classroom

window, according to a detailed account provided by her father, Pastor Randy Scroggins.

Harper-Mercer, 26, who was enrolled in the class but had showed no signs of anger two days before, entered, fired several rounds from a handgun and told everyone to get on the floor.

Natalie Robbins was in another writing class nearby in Snyder Hall when she heard the first muffled gunshot that sounded more like a table had been overturned.

“We heard this first BOOM,” Robbins said. “About 45 seconds later we hear boom, boom, boom, boom, boom. Six shots. In the middle of that is when my instructor said, ‘We have to get the hell out of here.’”

She and other classmates bolted out of the room toward the campus center.

The first 911 call was made at 10:38 a.m., but those on campus were not immediately alerted.

Biology professor Ken Carloni was sitting in his office in the science building next door when a colleague entered with a startled groundskeeper who said there was a shooting.

They locked the building, gathered about 40 students from the surrounding classrooms and huddled with them in a small hallway with no outside-facing windows.

Back in Snyder Hall, Lacey Scroggins didn't see her teacher fall, but Anastasia Boylan did.

The first-year student told her family from the hospital that Levine was shot at point-blank range.

“She was crying and saying, ‘Grandma, he killed my teacher! He killed my teacher! I saw it!’ Janet Willis said, in recount-

ing her granddaughter's story.

In the chaos that followed, Boylan found herself on the classroom floor, bleeding next to a friend who had also been shot.

Harper-Mercer began singling them out for slaughter, telling them to stand and state their religion.

Both Boylan and Scroggins said the gunman shot Christians in the head and wounded others, though there was at least one account that said he treated all religions with the same cold response.

“She hears the shooter in front say, ‘You, in that orange shirt, stand up!’” Randy Scroggins said. “‘What religion are you? Are you a Christian?’ He says ‘Yes.’ She hears another pop, and she hears a thud as he drops to the ground.”

Rand McGowan, who was shot in the hand, told his mother it didn't seem the shooter was deliberately targeting Christians.

“It was more so saying, ‘You're going to be meeting your maker,’” Stephanie Salas said.

Boylan, 18, was in terrible pain when Harper-Mercer told her to stand. She had been shot through the spine and a bullet was lodged in her back.

“Hey blonde girl,” he said, according to her grandmother. “Get up! I want to talk to you!”

SIDEBAR

Pastor's sermon: 'Violence will not have the last word'

ROSEBURG, Ore. (AP)—A pastor whose daughter survived last week's deadly rampage in a college classroom told his congregation on Sunday that “violence will not have the last word” in this southern Oregon timber town.

More than 100 people gathered to hear pastor Randy Scroggins speak at New Beginnings Church of God, including his daughter 18-year-old Lacey, who cried while sitting in the front row with her mother.

Scroggins said he's been asked whether he can forgive Christopher Sean Harper-Mercer, who killed nine when he opened fire Thursday at Umpqua Community College.

“Can I be honest? I don't know. That's the worst part of my job. I don't know,” said Scroggins, his voice cracking with emotion. “I don't focus on the man. I focus on the evil that was in the man.”

Harper-Mercer killed himself after a shootout with police.

At services across Roseburg on Sunday, pastors talked about the tragedy as the community tries to heal.

A couple hundred people crowded into Garden Valley Church, where pastor Craig Schlesinger said living the faith means countering the rampage “with acts of kindness.”

Schlesinger also spoke about trying to make sense of survivor reports that the gunman

asked who was Christian and then shot them.

“As those brave men and women were willing to stand and take a bullet for their faith... so let us bravely stand this day and live our faith in Roseburg,” he said, wiping away tears.

There have been conflicting accounts of Harper-Mercer's words inside the classroom, and what he may have meant by them. Some witness accounts have said that after killing people who said they were Christian he continued to execute others, doing so randomly.

Scroggins told those gathered at his church that his daughter survived because she was lying on the floor and par-

tially covered by the body of a fellow student. The gunman thought his daughter was dead.

Scroggins said the community has “come together with strength and courage and compassion. As if to say, ‘we will not be defined by violence’...Violence will not have the last word in Roseburg.”

Also sitting in the congregation alongside Lacey Scroggins was 18-year-old Mathew Downing, who also survived Thursday's shootings.

Scroggins' daughter Lacey had told him the gunman gave an envelope to Downing and told him to give it to police. Randy Scroggins said the envelope contained a flash drive.

Historic South Carolina floods: Heavy rain, hundreds rescued

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP)—Hundreds were rescued from fast-moving floodwaters Sunday in South Carolina as days of driving rain hit a dangerous crescendo that buckled buildings and roads, closed a major East Coast interstate route and threatened the drinking water supply for the capital city.

The powerful rainstorm dumped more than a foot of rain overnight on Columbia, swamping hundreds of businesses and homes. Emergency workers waded into waist-deep water to help people trapped in cars, dozens of boats fanned out to rescue others in flooded neighborhoods and some were plucked from rooftops by helicopters.

With so much water, officials

said it could take weeks or even months to assess every road and bridge that's been closed around the state. Several interstates around Columbia were closed, and so was a 75-mile stretch of Interstate 95 that is a key route connecting Miami to Washington, D.C. and New York.

“This is different than a hurricane because it is water, it is slow moving and it is sitting. We can't just move the water out,” Gov. Nikki Haley said at a news conference.

One death was reported in the area on Sunday, bringing weather-related deaths to seven since the storm began days earlier. The system drenching South Carolina was part of an unusual combination of weather conditions involving a slow-crawling

low pressure system meteorologists called unusually deep for this time of year.

People were told to stay off roads and remain indoors until floodwaters recede, and an overnight curfew was issued for Columbia and across two surrounding counties. The capital city told all 375,000 of its water customers to boil water before drinking because of water line breaks and the threat of rising water to a treatment plant. Emergency officials said later Sunday that many in Columbia were without potable water because of water main breaks and customers may have to go without drinking water for three or four days. Meanwhile, nearly 30,000 customers were without power at

one point.

Local officials counted several hundred water rescues by mid-morning before Columbia Fire Chief Aubry Jenkins said in an interview that there were too many rescues to keep count.

“We're just trying to get to everyone,” Jenkins said. “But there are places we just haven't gotten to.”

One of the hardest hit areas in Columbia was near Gills Creek, where a weather station recorded more than 18 inches of rain—or more than a third of the city's average yearly rainfall—nearly all of it in 24 hours. The creek was 10 feet above flood stage, spilling floodwaters that almost reached the stoplights at a four-lane intersection.

ACROSS THE NATION

San Francisco's last gun store closing doors for good

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The only gun store in San Francisco is shuttering for good, saying it can no longer operate in the city's political climate of increased gun control regulations and vocal opposition to its business. “It's with tremendous sadness and regret that I have to announce we are closing our shop,” High Bridge Arms manager Steve Alcairo announced in a Facebook post on Sept. 11. “It has been a long and difficult ride, but a great pleasure to be your last San Francisco gun shop.” Alcairo said the breaking point came this summer when a local politician proposed a law that would require High Bridge Arms to video record every gun sale and submit a weekly report of ammunition sales to the police. If passed, the law would join several local gun control ordinances on the books in a city still scarred by the 1993 murder of eight in a downtown high-rise and the 1978 assassination of Mayor George Moscone and gay rights activist Harvey Milk.

Law firm labeled hate group leading Kim Davis' crusade

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Kim Davis' lawyer stood onstage in a Washington D.C. hotel and pointed to a photo on the screen. It showed 100,000 people packed into a Peruvian soccer stadium, Mat Staver told the crowd, all there to pray for the Kentucky clerk battling against gay marriage. The crowd erupted. It wasn't true. Staver's firm, the Liberty Counsel, which revealed Davis' secret meeting with Pope Francis, has been accused by advocacy groups of peddling misrepresentations in the past. Yet it has become the main source of details about the controversial pope meeting. Online sleuths quickly debunked the Peru story Staver told at the Values Voter Summit, a conference for the conservative Family Research Council. The photo was from a year-old gathering unrelated to Davis, who spent five days in jail for defying a court order and refusing to license gay marriages. Staver could provide no evidence of a massive Davis rally. On Monday, he called it a mistake and blamed miscommunication with the Peruvian authorities who gave him the photo.

Asia

Doctors Without Borders leaves Afghan city after airstrike

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—The U.S. and Afghan governments vowed Sunday to jointly investigate the attack on a hospital in Kunduz that killed 22 people, as street-by-street battles continued between government forces and Taliban fighters and officials warned of a looming humanitarian crisis for civilians trapped in the city.

Amid accusations that U.S. jet fighters were responsible for what Doctors Without Borders said was a “sustained bombing” of their trauma center in Kunduz, President Barack Obama and Afghanistan’s President Ashraf Ghani promised investigations. Obama said he expected a full accounting of the circumstances surrounding the bombing, and that he would wait for those results before making a judgment. He said the U.S. would continue working with Afghanistan’s government and its overseas partners to promote security in Afghanistan.

Some top U.S. officials said the circumstances surrounding the incident remain murky, but others indicated the U.S. may have been responsible. Army Col. Brian Tribus, a spokesman for American forces in Afghanistan, said Saturday that a U.S. airstrike “in the Kunduz vicinity” around 2:15 a.m. Saturday morning “may have resulted in collateral damage to a nearby medical facility.”

U.S. officials speaking on condition of anonymity said



Injured Doctors Without Borders staff are seen after explosions near their hospital in the northern Afghan city of Kunduz, Saturday, Oct. 3, 2015.

American special operations forces advising Afghan commandos in the vicinity of the hospital requested the air support when they came under fire in Kunduz. The officials said the AC-130 gunship responded and fired on the area, but U.S. Secretary of Defense Ash Carter said it’s not certain yet whether that was what destroyed the hospital.

The officials were not authorized to discuss the incident publicly. They also said the senior U.S. military investigator is in Kunduz but hasn’t yet been

able to get to the site because it continues to be a contested area between the Afghans and the Taliban militants.

Carter, speaking to reporters traveling with him on a trip to Spain, said, “The situation there is confused and complicated, so it may take some time to get the facts, but we will get the facts.”

Carter said he believes the U.S. will have better information

in the coming days, once U.S. and international investigators get access to the hospital site.

Doctors Without Borders issued a statement Sunday expressing its “clear assumption that a war crime has been committed,” after earlier saying that “all indications” were that the international coalition was responsible for the early Saturday morning bombing. While NATO

maintains a significant military role in Afghanistan, airstrikes are conducted by U.S. forces.

Christopher Stokes, the charity’s general director, said the organization is demanding an independent investigation and may not be satisfied with an inquiry conducted by the U.S. and Afghan governments.

Using the organization’s French acronym, Stokes said,

“MSF demands that a full and transparent investigation into the event be conducted by an independent international body. Relying only on an internal investigation by a party to the conflict would be wholly insufficient.”

The charity said that the main hospital building in the sprawling compound, “where medical personnel were caring for patients, was repeatedly and very precisely hit during each aerial raid, while the rest of the compound was left mostly untouched.” It earlier said that bombing had lasted an hour, and repeated calls to NATO and the U.S. military to call off the strikes had failed.

On Sunday, the organization announced that three injured hospital patients had died, bringing the total death toll to 22, including 12 hospital staffers. It earlier said that three of the dead were children in the intensive care unit. The charity also announced it was withdrawing from Kunduz.

Afghan officials said earlier that helicopter gunships had returned fire from Taliban fighters who were hiding in the hospital. But Kate Stegeman, the charity’s communications manager, said there were no insurgents in the facility at the time of the bombing.

Meanwhile the humanitarian

Typhoon roars into south China, killing 9

BEIJING (AP)—Authorities in China and the Philippines said Monday that a typhoon that tore through the northern Philippines before roaring ashore in southern China has killed at least nine people and left dozens of fishermen missing.

Typhoon Mujigae also prompted several strong tornadoes when it landed in the southern Chinese province of Guangdong on Sunday, killing at least six people and injured 168 people, local authorities said.

In one case, a tornado swept up a car and killed the person inside, the civil affairs department of Guangdong said.

The official Xinhua News Agency said one fisherman also was killed and an additional 16 were reported missing in China.

Mujigae, the 22nd typhoon of the year, went through the northern Philippines early Saturday, causing floods and a few landslides. It left two dead and about 30 fishermen missing, said regional Office of Civil Defense spokesman Mike Sabado.

Nearly 200,000 people in southern China were evacuated before Typhoon Mujigae—“rainbow” in Korean—made landfall near the city of Zhanjiang in Guangdong province just after 2 p.m. Sunday, according

to the National Meteorological Center.

By Monday morning, the typhoon had moved into the neighboring region of Guangxi and its high wind speed dropped to 54 kilometers (34 miles) per hour. The region had ordered 12,700 fishing boats and 35,400 offshore workers to return to port.

The typhoon lashed southern China, including the resort island province of Hainan, where thousands of Chinese have flocked during the weeklong National Day holiday that runs through Wednesday.

Scores of flights in and out of

Hainan’s main airport in the provincial capital of Haikou have been canceled, and high-speed rail service between Haikou and the tourist center of Sanya was suspended over the weekend.

Meanwhile, more than 500 tourists were sheltering in hotels in Guangdong’s Fangji island after attempts to evacuate them were disrupted by high winds, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

Nearly 200 fishermen in the Philippines had been reported missing at the height of the storm, mostly from the provinces of Pangasinan and La Union, but most sailed back home after taking shelter or were rescued at sea.

Search area expanded to locate missing Indonesian plane

MAKASSAR, Indonesia (AP)—Six planes and four ships embarked Monday on a widening search for a plane with 10 people on board that went missing in eastern Indonesia three days ago.

The search for the turboprop plane, owned by the Aviastar Mandiri airline, was focusing on the sea near Bone Gulf, the large inlet between the two southern peninsulas of Sulawesi Island, said Henry Bambang Soelistyo, the head of Indonesia’s National Search and Rescue Agency.

Three military aircraft, a search and rescue helicopter and

two similar Twin Otter planes owned by the airline and four patrol boats joining Monday’s search operation.

The DHC-5 Twin Otter plane lost contact with air traffic controllers 11 minutes after taking off in good weather Friday from Masamba in South Sulawesi province. It was on a routine flight to Makassar, the provincial capital, carrying three crew members and seven passengers, including three children. No distress signal was received.

Weekend search efforts were hindered by bad weather and rough terrain, Soelistyo said. Rescuers have checked loca-

tions reportedly by the locals, but they were found nothing.

On Sunday, two aircraft and two helicopters combed areas around the location where the missing plane was believed to have made the last contact and areas where villagers allegedly heard or spotted the plane before it went missing, said Ivan Ahmad Titus, the agency’s operation director.

Soelistyo said the plane may not have been equipped with an emergency locator transmitter, a device attached to the so-called black boxes, which emits a signal indicating its position. Director General of Air Trans-

portation Suprasetyo said officials were investigating that possibility.

The 1981 Canadian-made plane joined Aviastar in January 2014 and underwent its most recent maintenance on Sept. 15.

Indonesia, a sprawling archipelago nation of about 250 million people, has been plagued by transportation accidents in recent years, including plane and train crashes and ferry sinkings. It is one of Asia’s most rapidly expanding airline markets, but is struggling to obtain qualified pilots, mechanics, air traffic controllers and modern airport technology.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Indonesia reports 9 more deaths from hajj stampede

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesia reported nine more dead over the weekend from the Saudi hajj stampede, raising the country’s death toll to 100. A release Sunday from the Ministry of Religious Affairs said 28 Indonesian pilgrims are still missing after the Sept. 24 stampede near Islam’s holy city of Mecca. Six other Indonesians are still being hospitalized in Saudi Arabia, it said. The number increases an Associated Press count of the dead from the disaster to at least 1,045 killed. The total figure could be even larger as the AP survey covered only 15 of the more than 180 countries that sent some 2 million pilgrims to the annual pilgrimage. Saudi Arabia’s latest toll, released Sept. 26, put the death toll at 769 pilgrims.

Hong Kong ex-leader Tsang charged in corruption probe

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong’s anti-corruption watchdog says it has charged the former leader of the southern Chinese financial hub with

misconduct, in one of the city’s biggest-ever graft scandals. The Independent Commission Against Corruption said in a statement Monday that Donald Tsang faces two counts of misconduct in public office. The agency said Tsang was due to appear in a magistrate’s court in the afternoon. The allegations date from shortly before Tsang left office in June 2012 and concern a discounted luxury apartment rental in neighboring Shenzhen in mainland China from a wealthy friend.

Seoul: N. Korea to release detained South Korean student

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea says North Korea will release a detained South Korean student from New York University. Won Moon Joo, 21, who has permanent resident status in the United States, was arrested in April for allegedly entering North Korea illegally across the Chinese border. Seoul’s Unification Ministry says North Korea has told South Korea it that it will repatriate Joo through the border village of Panmunjom on Monday.

World

Hope dims for finding survivors of deadly Guatemala mudslide

SANTA CATARINA PINULA, Guatemala (AP)—Hope faded Sunday for finding any survivors of a mudslide that killed at least 131 people as the smell of rotting bodies spread across the enormous mound of earth and rescuers reported the buried dwellings they reached were filled with water, suggesting anyone trapped inside would have drowned.

Rescue workers on Sunday pulled more corpses from the mound created when a hillside collapsed and covered about 4 acres (1.7 hectares) with mud and dirt as deep as 15 yards (meters).

Julio Sanchez, spokesman for Guatemala's volunteer firefighters, said 131 bodies had been pulled from the mud.

At an improvised morgue, 82 bodies have been identified and handed over to relatives, said municipal medical examiner Dr. Carlos Augusto Rodas Gonzalez. However, other bodies, some of which were found in pieces, remain unidentified.

The grim list of the dead who have been identified included at least 26 children and teenagers.

Rescuers decided to keep individual emergency work-



AP
In this Saturday, Oct. 3, 2016 photo, a doll and clothing lay in the mud as rescue workers continue to search the site of a mudslide in Cambray, a neighborhood in the suburb of Santa Catarina Pinula, on the outskirts of Guatemala City.

As time went on, hope of finding anyone alive dwindled.

"Only a miracle can save them," rescue worker Ines de Leon said.

But family members who had already identified their dead at the improvised morgue resigned themselves to the grim task of burying them in the crowded local cemetery.

City workers rapidly prepared burial niches in a large crypt wall for the dead, with dozens of square holes awaiting coffins. At least 16 coffins had been interred by Sunday, and the names of the deceased were etched into the fresh cement used to seal the crypts.

But lines of families with coffins, some holding the remains of children, crowded the narrow pathways that lead through the graveyard to the wall of crypts.

The coffin of high school student Bryan Sandoval, 17, was escorted to his grave by his school's marching band, in which he was a drummer. The drum major was crying while raising his baton and leading the band.

ers, relatives and reporters off the increasingly foul-smelling mound of dirt. Instead of digging by hand and listening for survivors, crews planned to use mostly backhoes and bull-

dozers to speed up the search for bodies.

"The people who could have been alive have drowned," said services coordinator Sergio Cabanas, explaining that rescue

personnel on foot would be sent out mainly when a backhoe turns up a corpse. "Ninety percent of it we will do with heavy machinery."

Authorities said about 300 people may still be missing. But they left open the possibility that many of them had simply fled and taken refuge with relatives without contacting authorities, or that they were not in

the 125 buried homes when the mudslide struck.

It was discouraging news for those who still held out hope of finding relatives buried by Thursday night's disaster, which inundated much of the Cambray neighborhood in Santa Catarina Pinula, a middle-class community of government workers, salesmen, taxi drivers and cooks.

Tip of the iceberg: No end in sight to migrant wave

ZAGREB, Croatia (AP)—One month after the body of 3-year-old Aylan Kurdi washed up on a Turkish beach—and a week after the European Union agreed to secure its borders—the migrant crisis has largely fallen off the front pages and reporters are going home.

But the human tide keeps rolling northward and westward, and aid agencies are preparing for it to continue through the winter, when temperatures along the migrant trail will drop below freezing. They fear the crisis may get worse.

"One thing is clear, the movement is not going to die down," said Babar Baloch, the U.N.

refugee agency's representative in the Balkans. "What we are seeing right now ... it's just the tip of the iceberg."

While over a half million people have crossed the Mediterranean to Europe this year, more than double the figure for all of 2014, that is only a fraction of the people who are on the move. Some 4 million have fled Syria after more than four years of civil war, and 8 million have been displaced inside the country. And it's not just Syrians. It's Iraqis and Iranians, Afghans and Eritreans.

The EU acknowledged the scale of the problem last week, even after it approved a plan

to toughen border controls and provide at least 1 billion euros (\$1.1 billion) to help Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan care for refugees living in their countries. The first new border measures won't take effect until November, and a proposal for strengthening the EU border agency is due in December.

"Recently I visited refugee camps in Turkey and Jordan and I heard only one message—we are determined to get to Europe," European Council President Donald Tusk said after the agreement was announced. "It is clear that the greatest tide of refugees and migrants is yet to come."

Syrian activists: IS group destroys ancient Palmyra arch

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian activists said late Sunday that Islamic State militants have destroyed a nearly 2,000-year-old arch in the ancient city of Palmyra, the latest victim in the group's campaign to destroy historic sites across the territory it controls in Iraq and Syria.

The Arch of Triumph was one of the most recognizable sites in Palmyra, the central city affectionately known by Syrians as the "Bride of the Desert," which the IS group seized in May. The monumental arch sat atop the famed colonnaded streets of the ancient city, which linked the Roman Empire to Persia and the East.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said

the IS group blew up the arch but left the colonnades in place.

An opposition activist who uses the name Khaled al-Homsi also posted on Twitter late Sunday that the militants destroyed the arch. Al-Homsi was a nephew of Khaled al-Asaad, the 81-year-old antiquities scholar and long-time director of the Palmyra site who relatives and witnesses say was beheaded by IS militants in August.

Palmyra's sprawling ancient complex, which also includes remains of temples to local gods and goddesses, has been under attack from the Islamic State group. The Sunni extremists impose a violent interpretation of Islamic law across a self-declared "caliphate,"

declaring such ancient relics promote idolatry and saying they are destroying them as part of their purge of paganism. However, they are also believed to sell off looted antiquities, bringing in significant sums of cash.

In recent weeks, IS militants blew up two famed temples in Palmyra. Satellite images showed the temples, each nearly 2,000 years old, reduced to rubble. Three ancient tower tombs were also eradicated.

The temple of Baalshamin, a structure of giant stone blocks several stories high fronted by six towering columns, was dedicated to a god of storm and rain—the name means literally "Lord of the Heavens."

WORLD BRIEFS

Spike in Palestinian attacks raise fears of another Intifada

JERUSALEM (AP)—A series of grisly Palestinian attacks that killed several Israeli civilians has prompted the government to take unprecedented security measures amid growing public debate over whether the specter of another Palestinian Intifada, or uprising, is on the horizon. Israel's prime minister vowed a "harsh offensive" to counter rising violence that has focused in recent weeks over Jerusalem's most sensitive holy site sacred to both Muslims and Jews, in a series of so-called "lone wolf" Palestinian attacks against Israelis. On Sunday, Israel announced that Palestinians would be temporarily barred from Jerusalem's Old City, the first time Israel has taken this step since it captured the Old City in the 1967 Mideast War. The latest spike in violence comes at a time when many Palestinians no longer believe statehood through negotiations with Israel is possible. Israeli commentators have raised the possibility of a third uprising, though Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas has so far

prevented major outbreaks of violence despite his growing friction with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Bermuda whipped by weakening Hurricane Joaquin

HAMILTON, Bermuda (AP)—Bermuda was lashed Sunday by gusting winds and pelting rains from a weakening Hurricane Joaquin as its spinning center tracked just west of the wealthy financial haven and tourist destination after plowing through the Bahamas as a major storm. Residents of the mid-Atlantic British dependency mostly hunkered down at home after securing patio furniture and stocking up on gas and batteries as the hurricane whipped the mid-Atlantic British territory. All flights to L.F. Wade International Airport were cancelled and ferry service was closed due to rough seas. Emergency service agencies were placed on alert and there were scattered power outages by early evening. "I think it's going to be bad, and last year I lost a lot of stuff to the storms," said retiree Susan DeSilva, whose son-in-law helped her secure

her windows and doors as the storm approached.

Portugal government re-elected despite painful austerity

LISBON, Portugal (AP)—Portugal's center-right coalition government earned another four-year term Sunday, winning a general election behind an improving economy that weathered the austerity measures contested across Europe, but falling short of a crucial outright majority in Parliament. With 99 percent of districts reporting, the government had 37 percent compared with 32 percent for the main opposition center-left Socialist Party. Smaller, leftist parties made up the rest. The victory was bittersweet, however, as the government failed to achieve a parliamentary majority. That means it will be outnumbered in the 230-seat chamber by left-of-center lawmakers who could block its policy proposals. A period of political instability could ensue, making investors once again nervous about the eurozone's ability to sort out its economic problems.

Focus

By SHARON COHEN
ASSOCIATED PRESSDeath row inmate at 16,
later freed, she can't escape past

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—She slipped out of the house before dawn, leaving behind four handwritten letters. She'd bought a new outfit at a Wal-Mart the night before—gray pants, a black-and-white knit shirt, black sandals. She always wanted to look nice, especially this Tuesday morning.

She drove to a street where her fiancé, a landscaper, had planted her favorite red begonias. There was a parking lot there, where the two of them liked to tool around on his father's old Harley that he was refurbishing. She left a tape recording on the front seat of her Toyota Corolla.

Paula Cooper had a plan. Doing what she wanted was still new to her. For most of her 45 years, prison officials had dictated when she could eat, sleep and shower. At 16, she'd become one of the nation's youngest inmates on death row for her role in the shockingly brutal stabbing of an elderly Bible teacher.

Spared from execution, Cooper served 27 years. On a June day in 2013, she was released, a smiling but scared middle-aged woman riding off in a van, watching the prison razor wire fade in the rearview mirror.

She was thrilled to be out, but she wrestled with an ugly past that shamed her and a present that, at times, overwhelmed her.

She learned to write a check, use a cell phone, manage a household. She found a good job, and was respected by her co-workers. She was championed by a wide circle of supporters, including the city's Roman Catholic archbishop and even, amazingly, her victim's grandson. She fell in love and was embraced by her fiancé's family.

But she also knew some people would never forgive her. She understood. She couldn't forgive herself.

"I have taken a life and never felt worthy," she wrote her fiancé.

Cooper sat down near a tree. Her letters written, her last words recorded, she pointed a .380-caliber Bryco handgun at her head and pulled the trigger.

■■■

If not for the bitter ending, this could have been a story about the most improbable redemption.

If not for the demons in her head—the guilt and torment—it could have been what Paula Cooper wanted: the story of a triumphant second chance, of a woman who'd proven she could do good and was nothing like the rage-filled teenager at the center of a horror three de-

AP
In this July 5, 2012 photo, Paula Cooper poses for a photograph in the kitchen of the Rockville Correctional Facility in Rockville, Ind.



cadecades ago.

On May 14, 1985, Cooper, then 15, and three other girls cut school, drank and smoked marijuana. Armed with a 12-inch butcher knife, they knocked on Ruth Pelke's door in Gary, a fading Indiana steel city beset by crime.

Cooper and two friends entered, pretending to be interested in the Bible lessons she offered. While one girl stood lookout, according to court records, Cooper grabbed the 78-year-old woman from behind, pushed her to the floor, smashed a vase over her head, then repeatedly slashed her in the stomach and chest, arms and legs. She had 33 stab wounds.

The girls ransacked the house, taking \$10 and stealing the widow's 1977 Plymouth. Cooper said robbery was the motive.

Prosecutor Jack Crawford sought the death penalty for Cooper. Authorities had identified her as the ringleader—a characterization she denied.

In 1986, Cooper pleaded guilty to murder. Before sentencing, her sister, Rhonda, testified about the girls' turbulent upbringing: She said her stepfather, now deceased, had disciplined them by pummeling them with his hands and whipping them with extension cords

while they were naked. Cooper ran away repeatedly.

Her sister also recalled a day—she was about 12 and Paula, 9—when their mother took both girls into the garage, turned on the car and announced they were going to heaven. They passed out and woke next to each other on a bed. (Cooper's mother declined to be interviewed.)

A defense psychologist who'd interviewed Cooper found "evidence of a major personality disorder" and a "strong tendency to be aggressive, hostile and vindictive." But he also

noted her traumatic childhood.

Pleading for her life, Cooper asked the Pelke family for forgiveness and expressed hope she could one day start life over.

"I have remorse," she said. "What can I do? I can't explain what happened. ... I can't just sit here and say I'm sorry. ... Sorry isn't good enough for me. And sorry isn't good enough for you."

Judge James Kimbrough had the final word. A vocal opponent of capital punishment, he seemed Cooper's best hope. But he saw no choice. He asked Cooper to stand, then declared:

"The law requires me, and I do now, impose the death penalty."

■■■

As a 16-year-old inmate, Cooper knew nothing of the law and feared that any day she might be taken from her cell and strapped into the electric chair.

That is, until she met Monica Foster, a young appellate defender, who explained the legal process to her sobbing client.

She spent weekend afternoons with Cooper, but they didn't discuss the crime. "My role," she says, "was really just to keep her sane."

At 26, Foster was just 10 years older but when Cooper's "sassy mouth" repeatedly got her in trouble in prison, she assumed a maternal role, preaching discipline and sound judgment. "A lot of that," she says, "frankly fell on deaf ears."

Months after being sentenced, Cooper forged a more unlikely, life-changing friendship.

Bill Pelke, the victim's grandson, remembers when it began:

On Nov. 2, 1986, he was perched 50 feet high in a crane cab at the Bethlehem Steel plant, remembering his beloved Nana's final moments in the dining room where she'd hosted family gatherings. She'd died reciting the Lord's Prayer, according to one of the girls

with Cooper.

Thinking about her unwavering faith, he became convinced she'd have compassion for Cooper and be appalled by the death sentence. Pelke asked God for that same compassion and when his prayer was answered, he says, his memories of his grandmother no longer were "about how she died, but how she lived."

Pelke wrote Cooper in prison, saying he intended to help her.

On Nov. 10, 1986, she replied. It was her first of hundreds of letters they'd exchange over decades.

"You don't have to write, speak, travel nor testify for me, just forgive me," she wrote. "I'm not an evil person or what ever you think of me to be. I'm just someone who is real angry, angry with life & all the people around me. ... I can face you no matter what you think of me ... because I am still human & God forgives me."

Pelke responded days later: "Paula, I really believe Nana wants me to do this, and therefore, I will."

Pelke's parents weren't as forgiving. His mother insisted he read the autopsy report's gruesome details. His father had praised the death sentence. But he later said he expected Cooper would be spared by some do-gooder.

He wasn't expecting his son to lead the charge.

A "save Paula" campaign was just beginning in Italy, where there was fierce opposition to the death penalty. Pelke spoke in Rome after his forgiveness of Cooper became public. Pope John Paul II appealed for clemency. Eventually, some 2 million signatures were collected on one petition.

In 1989, the Indiana Supreme Court spared Cooper's life, citing a recent state law and a U.S. Supreme Court decision that barred executions of those under 16.

She was sentenced to 60 years. It was a glimmer of hope.

■■■

A reprieve didn't calm Cooper.

At the Indiana Women's Prison, she got in trouble for threats and rowdy conduct.

But she also earned a high school equivalency diploma, then took classes offered through Martin University in Indianapolis.

"She had a sweet disposition but she knew she was infamous and made use of that to put people off," recalls Warren Lewis, then her philosophy professor. As they got acquainted, Lewis once asked, "Paula, why did you do what you did?" She replied: "Dr. Lewis, no one has ever asked me that question before."

The discussion ended there.

Cooper rarely talked of the murder, even with her close friend, Ormeshia Linton, who

See **DEATH** on Next Page



AP
In this Friday, May 11, 2001 photo, new college graduate Paula Cooper is congratulated by her sister, Rhonda LaBroi, after receiving a bachelor's degree from Martin University during a graduation ceremony for her and 16 other inmates at the Indiana Women's Prison in Indianapolis.

DEATH

From Page 17

met her in 1995 when she was imprisoned on a drug conviction. Linton recalls something Cooper did say: "There was no innocent person in the house that day." (The other girls were sentenced from 25 to 60 years.)

Bill Pelke didn't broach it, either. "What happened that day was a crazy, crazy senseless act," he says.

In 1994, Pelke finally won permission to visit Cooper in prison, the first of 14 meetings.

"I gave her a hug," he says. "I stepped back. I looked her in the eyes and I told her that I loved her and had forgiven her."

Driving home, Pelke marveled that he wasn't angry or seeking revenge. "To me," he says, "that was wonderful."

Still, Cooper's rage persisted. After assaulting a prison worker, she was placed in segregation, remaining in a 23-hour lockdown on and off for three years.

Cooper could be hotheaded and unyielding, but she was generous and kind, too, often welcoming new inmates with Ramen noodles and toiletries.

"She learned a lot of life lessons in prison," Linton says. "As more people put faith and trust in her, she started believing in herself."

In 2001, a beaming Cooper, dressed in cap and gown, received a bachelor's degree in humanities from Martin University in a prison ceremony attended by her sister and father.

The next year, though, after she'd transferred to the Rockville Correctional Facility, she faced more trouble: three months of segregation for fighting.

"When you're doing a lot of time, you kind of have this reputation you have to keep up," says Julie Stout, the prison's superintendent. "She didn't want to conform or follow the rules."

But around 2007, Stout noticed a big change. Cooper wanted to better herself. "Maybe it was she was getting older and realized, 'I need to get myself ready,'" she says.

Cooper participated in several programs; her favorite was culinary arts, where she excelled and became a tutor. "She truly loved that," Stout says. "She was always smiling."

As her sentence was ending—she got a day off for each one served and credit for her degrees—Cooper wrote Pelke in 2010. She'd "paid the price" for her "terrible" crime, she said, but still couldn't explain why she'd done it.

"Maybe," she wrote, "it was all the beatings but after almost 30 years ... no one has ever tried to help figure it out & if anyone thinks prison is the real answer people are mistaken."

■■■

On her last day in prison, Paula Cooper cried.

"I'm going to miss you

guys," she said, according to Stout.

Walking out on June 17, 2013, she asked if she could ring a giant bell, as prison workers do when they retire. It clanged like a gong. Cooper smiled, then headed to a van.

She had prepared for life outside, twice taking an eight-week transition program that offered guidance on job searches, budgeting and other practical matters.

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis helped Cooper with an apartment. She began volunteering in a church soup kitchen.

She reveled in everyday routines—even walking in the grass—but struggled with loneliness at first, sometimes crying alone in her apartment. She called her sister, Rhonda LaBroi, five, six times a day. "She was very afraid to be on her own," she says.

Freedom was intimidating. Unaccustomed to many choices, Cooper sometimes fled the grocery while shopping. Driving was hard, too. She got lost easily.

"She thought life was easier on the inside than on the outside," LaBroi says. "She said it was too complicated."

Cooper's sister constantly encouraged her.

"I'd say, 'There are some people will hate you ... but just go about your business,'" LaBroi says. "I told her she just had to live her life regardless of what people say and think. She'd served her time. She understood that, but I don't think it ever sunk in."

Her crime weighed on her.

"She thought about it constantly—every day of her life—and how she hated what she had done," LaBroi recalls. "She was just so ashamed."

During a year of parole, some members of an eight-person team, which included a mental health counselor, had daily contact with Cooper. After that, she continually updated Stout and two other prison mentors with calls about everything from her driver's license to her finances. "She would just talk a mile a minute about all the things she was doing," Stout says.

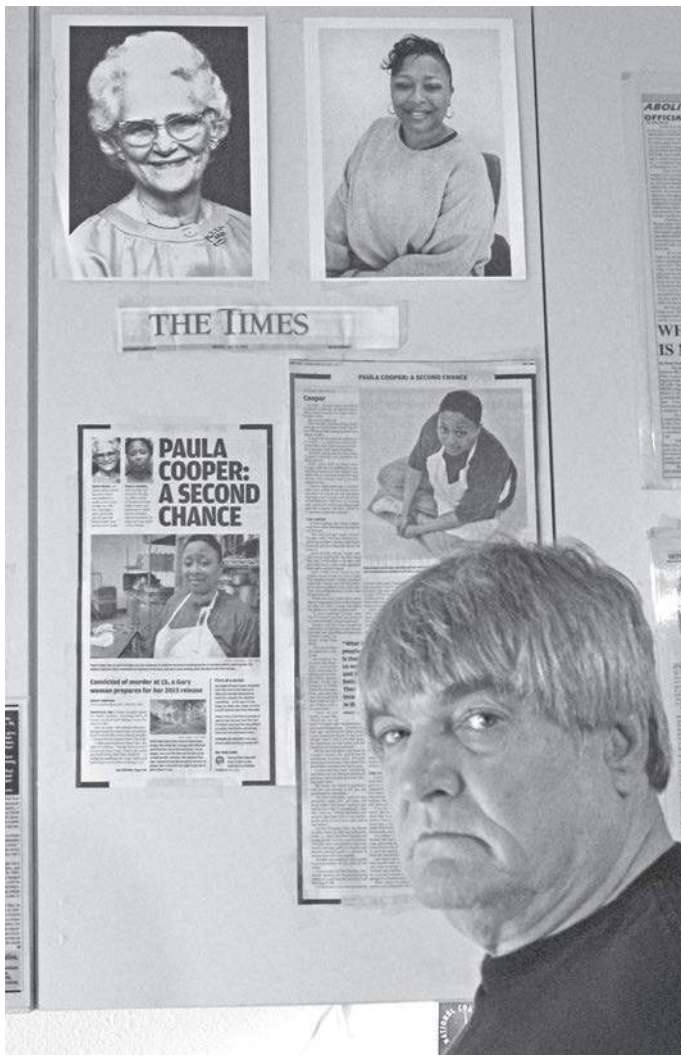
Cooper found work at a burger joint, but wanted more.

"She was always saying she needed to give back for what she had done," says Foster, her former lawyer, who reconnected with Cooper about a year after her release. They became close friends.

Foster, who heads the Indiana Federal Community Defender's Office, hired Cooper last fall as a legal assistant.

"She really became the soul of this office," Foster says, remembering Cooper as the happiest worker there. "She added a level of joy I think we'll never have again."

Cooper also understood the clients' fears and vulnerabilities. "She could talk to mothers about solitary," Foster says.



In this Monday, Aug. 24, 2015 photo, Bill Pelke poses in his home office in Anchorage, Alaska, below portraits of his grandmother, Ruth Pelke, and the woman who killed her, Paula Cooper.

"She had an empathy that was off the charts."

She was tenacious, too, never taking no for an answer when she needed to contact someone. And she was organized, always having everything in order, even office birthday parties.

"She went overboard to make sure we were pleased," says Kim Robinson, a lawyer on the defenders' board who was initially surprised by Cooper's hiring but was soon impressed by her professionalism.

At a spring open house, Archbishop Joseph Tobin noticed Cooper's confidence had grown since they'd met months earlier. "I thought she was doing fabulous," he says. "She seemed to be really upbeat."

One big reason: She was in love.

Cooper was leaving a KFC one day when LeShon Davidson stopped her, asking her out. After declining, she called him that night.

The next morning, on a whim, he texted her Psalm 27:10: "Though my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will receive me." It resonated with him, he says, because he'd had a friend abandoned by his mother who'd triumphed against great odds. The psalm struck a chord, too, with Cooper.

They had dinner at a Cracker Barrel, and afterward, she revealed she'd been in prison for 27 years.

Davidson didn't ask why, but he later Googled her name. "Oh, my God," he thought. "What if I've made a mistake?"

Still, he didn't press. "I wanted Paula to talk about it when she felt comfortable," he says. She did, but never in detail.

The two became inseparable.

They visited Glasgow, Kentucky, where Davidson had inherited farmland. Davidson, who was divorced, introduced her to his six children and 10 grandchildren. "Miss Paula" became part of the family.

Davidson says Cooper never wanted to disappoint. "She wanted to make everybody happy," he says.

During a Thanksgiving visit to Cooper's mother, Davidson proposed, old-fashioned style, on one knee. He'd already bought Cooper a diamond engagement ring.

But there were rough patches, too, fights Davidson says often stemmed from Cooper's severe pre-menstrual cramps that left her short-tempered. They had a big one Memorial Day weekend.

It followed another emotional upheaval.

Cooper wanted to accompany her mother to church for Mother's Day, friends say, but her mother said she'd need to get her pastor's approval.

"It really, really hurt her feelings," Davidson says. "She said, 'I did my crime and I thought I paid my debt to society. ... Other people that don't really know me—they accept me, but my own mother she won't let the past just die.'"

■■■

Paula Cooper hoped to marry, possibly in the lush garden at Foster's home. She talked about visiting Washington, D.C. She'd recently bought stylish eyeglasses.

She seemed to be looking ahead—and yet on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, she was sobbing when she visited Ormeshia Linton at work.

"Friend, friend, I can't take

it anymore," Linton recalls her saying. She'd never seen Cooper so broken.

"It's the pain inside, the pain inside," she said pointing to her heart, Linton recalls. "I just want it to be over."

To Linton, the message was clear.

"I don't think she ever felt she deserved a second chance," she says. "People would think Paula didn't have a conscience. Paula had a conscience. Paula had a heart."

Linton knew about Cooper's fight with her fiancé. She insisted she stay a few days with her and her husband. They barbecued and Cooper's sister visited.

"She gave me the biggest hug," LaBroi recalls. "I felt something inside was wrong. I said, 'Is everything OK?' She said, 'Everything's fine. Everything's beautiful.'"

That night, Cooper insisted on shopping for a new outfit, planning for how she'd look the next day.

When Linton awoke on May 26, her husband was screaming, "Meshia, Meshia."

Cooper had left four letters. Three were in envelopes on the stove.

Linton's was left open. It was a thank you and a goodbye.

The police found Cooper next to a tree, on her right side, a gun in her lap.

Linton and Davidson pieced together her final hours.

Cooper had visited a former boyfriend. She'd left goodbye notes to him, her sister, Linton and Davidson. She also left her fiancé a phone message: "Just wanted to hear your voice one more time."

The next day, Monica Foster sat in the police station listening to the tape Cooper left in her car.

Her farewells were crisp, almost businesslike.

To her sister: You were "my queen, my everything."

To her mother: "You didn't care about me. You cut me off. You judged me. You didn't want me at your church."

To Foster: "I'm so sorry."

To Linton, her friend: "You helped me when I was down. ... You (will) always be my sister."

And to Davidson, the man she called "daddy" and credited with showing her the world:

"I'm sorry for hurting you. Just know that I love you, baby. ... Forgive me."

Cooper's message also revealed deep despair:

"This pain that I feel every day ... I can't deal with this reality... I must have peace, peace of mind, peace in my heart."

She echoed that in her note to Davidson.

"My spirit died somewhere along the way," she wrote. "I just didn't feel I deserved you. I took a life and have never felt worthy. ... You were so beautiful inside and it was me that was poison. ... I know you don't understand but mental illness is bad."

Cooper told him to remem-

ber how they'd danced, holding one another, and asked that he send her love to his family.

"I said my prayer and asked God if it were OK and he said yes, he is mad, but understands," she added. "I can't stay with this misery inside I fight every day, this voice that tells me I'll never be happy."

■■■

Her death stunned many.

Jack Crawford, the former prosecutor who'd fought for her execution but now opposes capital punishment, says she deserved a second chance.

Stout, the prison superintendent, regrets Cooper didn't reach out.

"I don't know why she didn't just call us—just pick up the phone and call," she says.

Foster, her friend and boss, wonders if Cooper's cheeriness was a warning sign they'd all missed. She wanted a normal life, Foster says, but there was that guilt she couldn't escape. "She was trying to outrun the voices in her head, but I don't think that ultimately she could."

In life, Cooper, the prisoner, had few choices. In death, she made many, leaving detailed funeral instructions. "I want my services to be happy," she wrote.

Rather than flower arrangements, she wanted just the red begonias that Davidson introduced her to when they fell in love. She requested her favorite music—Chris Brown, Patti LaBelle—and fried chicken, greens, Hawaiian rolls and macaroni and cheese. She asked to wear a black outfit her sister had bought her. She wanted her hair rolled and no makeup.

And she asked to be cremated.

Instead, her mother chose to bury her. Foster said Cooper's mother indicated the family opposes cremation.

Cooper's sister, fiancé, co-workers and friends held their own memorial with the food she requested, the music she loved, the people she wanted.

The archbishop offered a prayer asking the "angels of God to lead her to paradise."

Pelke, who'd come all the way from Alaska, read from Cooper's Christmas card message: "Always remember me in your prayers and I will do the same."

They watched a musical slide show of Cooper at her college graduation, at work, with her fiancé, sister and nephew. This was the life they wanted to remember—not the ghastly beginning or end, but the redemption and joy in-between.

There were tears, even though Cooper forbade them in her tape.

"I don't want people crying and having a lot of regrets feeling they could have died more," she said. "There was nothing more anybody could do. It's time."

Sharon Cohen, a Chicago-based national writer, can be reached at scohen@ap.org.

Overdrive

Nissan Rogue worth getting to know but not a mischief-maker

By LARRY PRINTZ
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

The Nissan Rogue has a name that's the antithesis of its look. There's nothing rogue about it. And that's a good thing. Or at least consumers think so.

Since the vehicle's launch in 2007, annual sales have climbed from 73,000 to more than 200,000. That trend has continued, according to the latest numbers, with June sales up 54.3 percent compared to June 2014. Annual sales are up 36.3 percent.

So what do drivers find so fetching about this Rogue?

Well, for starters, it's quite handsome.

Avoiding the oddball styling touches that afflict some of the biggest sellers in the compact crossover utility class, the Rogue possesses an air of sophistication. That's especially true once you climb inside, where the cabin is blessed with a look that belies its price.

The test vehicle boasted a two-tone interior with quality leather, adding to its upscale feel. The front seats are roomy, comfortable and supportive. Rear seat space is equally impressive, with high seating that proves comfortable for adults, which is unusual in most CUVs.

Need a third row? Opt for the Family Package. But beware: It reduces the Rogue's



The 2015 Nissan Rogue's bold, sharp bodylines offer a sporty and confident appearance, balancing its sleek style with an aggressive stance provided by large wheelwells and available 18-inch wheels and tires.

impressive cargo capacity from 32 cubic feet to 9.4 cubic feet when all seats are in use.

No matter which trim level that you choose—the base-level S, mid-level SV or premium SL—you get the same driveline: a 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine and continuously variable automatic transmission with a choice of front-wheel drive or all-wheel

NUTS & BOLTS	
Engine:	2.5-liter four-cylinder
Horsepower/torque:	170 horsepower/175 pound-feet
Wheelbase:	106.5 inches
Length:	182.3 inches
Weight:	3,605 pounds
Cargo space:	9.4-70 cubic feet
Towing capacity:	1,000 pounds
EPA rating (city/highway):	25/32 mpg
Fuel type:	Regular
Base prices:	\$23,040-\$29,630

drive.

The test model, a 2015, proved responsive, with the engine providing more than sufficient power to move the metal. But the CVT transmission, while certainly the best transmission of its type on the market, hesitated like its brethren when a quick burst of power was required. Steering is accurate, although on-center posi-

tion had an artificial feel.

Yet the Rogue feels easy to maneuver and had a light, nimble feel to it. Body lean is modest, and bump absorption is on-par for the class. Road noise, however, is pronounced, especially at highway speeds, and proves to be this vehicle's

weakest trait.

And while the Rogue is not devilishly fun to drive, it's more than suited for the daily cut and thrust of commuting. It's competent but not memorable. For some that's no sin; others will want their CUV to be a bit more involving to drive.

Standard safety gear includes four-wheel disc brakes with anti-lock brakes, stability control, traction control and hill start assist.

The Rogue is a fine choice, even if there's no single feature, aside from its handsome styling and premium cabin, that make it stand apart from the pack.

For 2016, look for Nissan to add Forward Emergency Braking, a motion-activated power tailgate, Siri Eyes Free and new telematics services.

Despite its name, there is nothing sinister lurking in this Rogue. It is a stylish compact crossover with room for five or seven, a budget-friendly price, good fuel economy and all of the expected options.

There's no doubt that this is one Rogue worth getting to know, but don't expect any mischief unless you make it yourself.

MOTERING Q&A

How to reduce distracted driving

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: In response to a recent question about cellphone use while driving, there is a simple, relatively inexpensive solution. Insurance companies lobby the federal government to mandate that automakers install a low-level cellphone jamming device similar to devices available in the marketplace. The jamming device activates when the speedometer is activated by the car in motion but is inactive when the vehicle is stopped. Any attempt to deactivate the device would cause the entire instrument cluster to crash, resulting in an expensive repair. Federal and state governments already have created legislation for vehicle safety—seatbelts, air bags, daytime running lights etc. A stroke of the pen for low-level cellphone jamming devices would be simple and easy, and the technology is here today.

A: This great idea is from Tom Hawk. Although it would be dramatic and somewhat harsh in regard to permanent damage from attempting to deactivate the jamming system and would not allow passengers

to use their cellphones while the vehicle is moving, it would certainly reduce distracted driving from cellphone use.

But where would you draw the line? Recognize that cellphone use is only one of many forms of distracted driving—eating, gawking, dressing, reading, fiddling with controls, etc. While I can't argue the basic validity of "forced compliance," the fact that it might take something this draconian confirms, in my opinion, that the basic problem is human. How many people still fail to buckle their seatbelts even in light of the law, much less the obvious and continuous danger of failing to do so? How many people still choose a cheeseburger rather than a Big Mac or Whopper in the drive-thru because it's less messy to eat while driving? Even newer cars with "hands free" texting and cellphone use still require the driver to multitask while driving.

As a nation we seem to accept an enormous casualty rate from motor vehicle crashes—40,000 deaths per year—as the cost of "doing business," so to speak. The annual numbers approach our losses in Korea and Vietnam

and are 10 times our total losses in the Gulf wars.

Thus, we're back to that fundamental question—are driverless motor vehicles the only answer?

I sure hope not. I keep returning to the words of Jackie Stewart—a very early "reality check," including an ongoing education into each and every aspect of owning/driving a motor vehicle along with a long, difficult and expensive process of training to obtain a driver's license, is the best long-term solution.

In a nutshell, it is my feeling that we need to change driving behaviors, not try to prevent them.

Q: How do automatic braking systems effectively work in an area of wildlife "instantly" crossing your path, especially on icy roads with no shoulders and deep ditches?

A: Great question. First, no "system" can overcome the laws of physics. In automotive terms, this is the level of traction available between the vehicle's tires and road surface. Passive automatic braking systems create an audible warning to the driver of an impending threat so that he/she can react, while active systems can actually apply and/or adjust the level of braking to minimize

stopping distance. These systems are integrated with ABS, traction and stability control and can even pre-tension seatbelts in anticipation of a crash.

The current generation of these systems utilizes radar, laser and cameras to monitor what's in front of the vehicle and the closure rate. Interestingly, there doesn't seem to be an industry standard as to exactly what these systems recognize as an impending threat. Some recognize only other vehicles while some recognize smaller objects like people and animals.

These systems are still in their infancy and are part of the larger effort to fully automate the driving experience—ultimately driverless cars.

Will all the automotive "nannies" ultimately become our chauffeurs?

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn., 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. Because of the volume of mail, we cannot provide personal replies.

Emissions testing explained

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Emissions testing programs vary widely from state to state, but most states now perform an on-board diagnostic check in lieu of a tailpipe emissions check.

An analyzer is connected to the vehicle's diagnostic connector, and a technician checks to see if monitors (self-tests) are completed or if any diagnostic trouble codes appear. If the required monitors have run to completion, there are no stored trouble codes, and the check engine light is capable, yet off, the vehicle certifies itself, via inference, that exhaust emissions are within specifications.

Light diesel vehicles, like the Volkswagens in question, may receive an on-board diagnostic test, a simple exhaust opacity (smoke) test, or aren't tested at all. Many states also defer emissions testing for the first four to six years on a new gas or diesel vehicle.

Some areas still perform tailpipe testing. One test includes a variety of simulated driving conditions lasting 240 seconds, mimicking part of the new vehicle federal certification test. The driving "trace" is very specific, and a technician needs to carefully manipulate the throttle while driving the trace or the test is terminated.

This test collects all of the exhaust for analysis, looking specifically at five gasses.

A different testing method is simpler and involves the vehicle being run at a steady 15 miles per hour and 25 miles per hour under moderate load. A portion of the exhaust is sampled, and again, five gasses are looked at.

A vehicle's engine management system is programmed to gather information from its sensors, refer to an instruction set, and execute appropriate outputs to fuel, ignition, and emission control components to maintain optimum drivability, fuel economy, and emissions compliance. It's certainly plausible that a vehicle's control system could be instructed to recognize the unique operational conditions of the complex federal test procedure, or if need be, one of the state-run tests and make changes that differ from normal driving maneuvers. Reducing nitric oxide emissions during an emissions test would likely involve changes to fuel injection timing and/or duration and exhaust gas recirculation flow.

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood(at)earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.

Life & Style

Patrick Kennedy memoir takes hard look at family, addiction

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—A new book by former U.S. Rep. Patrick Kennedy, youngest son of the late Sen. Edward Kennedy, openly discusses what he says are the mental illnesses and addictions of himself and his family members, and takes on what he portrays as a veil of secrecy used to hide the problems of America's most famous political family.

The memoir, "A Common Struggle," due out Monday, focuses heavily on his relationship with his father and how the younger Kennedy often felt he let his father down while coping with bipolar and anxiety disorders and repeated trips to rehab, even as a Rhode

Island congressman.

By his telling, it was a singular experience growing up a Kennedy: Family members have the habit of giving each other autographed photos of themselves; he got one from his father when he was just a baby. A family photo printed in the book depicts him in his bedroom as a young child showing off his aquarium to Henry Kissinger.

But even stranger was browsing through a bookstore one day and discovering a shelf of Kennedy books, and realizing all the family secrets he wasn't supposed to talk about were written there, he writes.

"The books were often rid-

dled with inaccuracies, but also riddled with facts that probably would have been much easier to hear first from close family members and perhaps with some context," Kennedy writes.

He says his father spoke with him only once about his 1969 car accident on Chappaquiddick Island that killed his father's passenger, Mary Jo Kopechne. It happened one year as the anniversary approached.

"I just want you to know how bad I feel about everything, and I'm really sorry you have to hear about it," he says his father told him. "That was it. Then we just walked in silence."

Many of the details in the book are no surprise. Kennedy,

48, has been open in recent years about his belief that his father had PTSD after seeing both his brothers assassinated—then being forced to relive the killings whenever they were replayed on television.

But the book contains interesting windows into how his father coped. Sen. Kennedy, for example, wrote a letter to his son when he decided to run for president—to be delivered if he was assassinated.

He also recounts what happened after a 1979 CBS interview when his father famously choked when asked why he wanted to be president. The two went sailing, and the elder Kennedy tried to pretend everything

was fine, but kept shaking his head and muttering.

"I had never seen him so upset with himself," he writes.

Kennedy describes worrying that his father was drinking too much, particularly around the time of the 1991 sexual assault trial of his cousin, William Kennedy Smith. He writes that he, his brother and sister staged an "anemic" intervention, which their father rejected, telling them he was trying to get help from a priest.

His relationship with his father was chilly for years after that, he writes. So chilly that he decided to run for Congress in 1994 without speaking with his dad first. But their relationship righted itself after he took office in Washington the following year, he says.

Ted Kennedy Jr. disputed

the accuracy of the book Sunday, saying in a written statement that he was "heartbroken" that his younger brother had chosen to write "an inaccurate and unfair portrayal of our family" that was "misleading and hurtful."

"My brother's recollections of family events and particularly our parents are quite different from my own," he wrote, although he did not give specifics.

Patrick Kennedy's book describes the first time he got drunk—at age 10 at a state dinner on a diplomatic trip to China—and substance abuse that grew to include cocaine, Adderall and OxyContin. He details trip after trip to rehab starting in high school and his paranoia that someone would recognize him and go public (which did happen).

Lady Gaga said she felt alive and 'like herself' on 'AHS'



Lady Gaga, left, and executive producer/director/writer Ryan Murphy arrive at the Los Angeles premiere screening of "American Horror Story: Hotel" at Regal Cinemas L.A. Live on Saturday, Oct. 3, 2015.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Appearing in the new season of "American Horror Story" was a life boost for Lady Gaga.

The singer raved about her experience on "American Horror Story: Hotel" as she arrived for the star-studded premiere of the FX show on Saturday night.

With fiancé Taylor Kinney as her date, Lady Gaga said the experience of playing Countess Elizabeth, who runs the Hotel Cortez, made her feel alive.

"It's been so fun," said Lady Gaga, who arrived fashionably late in a red gown with a thigh-high slit.

"Everybody on this cast has been really open and available to me in a very honest way, so I'm able to be myself in a way I feel like I haven't been in a really long time, so they are just

making me feel so alive," Lady Gaga said.

She called the fifth installment of the Emmy-winning show a masterpiece and praised executive producer and co-creator Ryan Murphy.

"I'm just really happy to be a part of it. I like being a part of someone else's vision it's really exhilarating," she added.

Lady Gaga endeared herself to the cast. Matt Bomer said some of her fellow actors called her by her given first name (her real name is Stefani Germanotta).

"It's sort of takes the myths and all the preconceptions of Lady Gaga out of the equation so we can just relate to each other like human beings and actors in a scene," explained Bomer. "She's so approachable that she totally just was

there for us ... and by the time the cameras were rolling and we were in a scene together, we weren't thinking about the fact that you were doing a scene with Lady Gaga."

Denis O'Hare spilled juicy details about the super exclusive bash Lady Gaga threw for the cast, which includes regulars like Angela Bassett, Sarah Paulson, and Kathy Bates.

"She had a pool; she dyed it blood red," said O'Hare. "She had bathing suits for all of us. I jumped right in. I wore a woman's bathing suit at one point. She had a massive amount of food for us."

Being Lady Gaga, there was also some sauciness involved.

"She had a half-naked bartender for some of us it was an incredible party and it was just

us, so it was comfortable and we all got to know each other," he said. "She got a birthday cake for Angela. I can't describe it. It was an obscene birthday cake, it was shocking actually."

Supermodel Naomi Campbell is among the new additions to the show. Campbell, who also appears on "Empire," said the role came about when Ryan offered her a role over dinner. Up until Saturday night the cast wasn't able to discuss anything about the new season. The British supermodel said keeping hush hush was really easy for her.

"It's never been my thing of speaking before something happens," she said. "I kind of find that bad luck."

The show premieres Wednesday night.

Science sells: 'The Martian' lands with \$55 million debut

NEW YORK (AP)—Opening just days after NASA announced findings showing water on Mars, "The Martian" soaked up moviegoers at the box office.

Ridley Scott's 3-D space epic touched down in theaters with a robust \$55 million over the weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday. The results again proved moviegoers' abiding thirst for space adventures, particularly ones that rely more on mathematics than monsters.

The 20th Century Fox release, starring Matt Damon as an astronaut left for dead on Mars, exceeded expectations to nearly rank as the top October debut ever. The estimated North American opening of "The Martian" surpassed that of Christopher Nolan's "Interstellar" (\$47.5 million) and virtually equaled the debut of Alfonso Cuarón's "Gravity" (\$55.8 million).

It's Scott's second best opening behind 2001's "Hannibal" and Damon's second best after 2007's "Bourne Ultimatum."

Made for \$108 million, "The Martian" received a publicity boost earlier in the week when NASA announced it had found evidence of water on the surface of Mars—a cosmically fortuitous tie-in for a movie that celebrates NASA ingenuity. Adapted from the Andy Weir novel, "The Martian"—more "science-fact" than science fiction—relishes pragmatic scientific problem solving and NASA's spirit of exploration.

"What separates this movie—it has the backdrop of science—but all of the science is presented in a way that's very approachable for all," said Chris Aronson, head of distri-

bution for Fox.

Aronson noted that the shift in release date from Nov. 25 to early October gave the film a more open path at the box office, where it could play well through the month. The film added \$45.2 million internationally.

"Solid performances by recent space-related films like 'Interstellar' and 'Gravity' show that 'geeking-out' on all things outer space and science related in the movie theater is not only a popular pastime, but has now made science actually 'cool,'" said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box-office firm Rentrak.

Yet October is proving especially busy with well-reviewed studio releases seeking broad audiences. Another acclaimed 3-D spectacle, Sony's "The Walk," took a back seat to "The Martian." Ahead of a wider opening next week, Robert Zemeckis' dramatization of Philippe Petit's World Trade Center stunt took in just \$1.6 million on 448 Imax screens.

"You need word of mouth for this type of film and that's what this weekend was all about," said Sony distribution head Rory Bruer, who granted it's a "crowded field." The film will look to parlay strong reviews out of its New York Film Festival debut and buzz from its vertigo-inducing 3-D next week.

Last week's box-office champ, "Hotel Transylvania 2," slid to second with an estimated \$33 million. Sony's animated sequel has made \$90.5 million in two weeks.

Denis Villeneuve's drug war thriller "Sicario," starring Emily Blunt, shot up to third with \$12.1 million for the acclaimed Lionsgate release.

Meet Val the bartender: Hillary Clinton does an 'SNL'skit

WASHINGTON (AP)—Hillary Rodham Clinton, the front-runner for the Democratic nomination, appeared on the season opener of the comedy show "Saturday Night Live" as a wise bartender named Val who pours a drink or two for, ahem, Hillary Clinton.

Most political candidates play themselves on "SNL," often for just a cameo or to declare the show's famous tag line, "Live from New York—it's Saturday night!" Seldom do they play a character.

"So, Hillary," Clinton asks her doppelganger, played by "SNL" regular Kate McKinnon, "what brings you here tonight?"

"Well, I needed to blow off some steam," McKinnon says. "I've had a hard couple of 22 years."

Asked what she does for a liv-

Paris parties all night with silent disco, art shows

PARIS (AP)—Thousands of Parisians danced in eerie silence at the Gare du Nord train station and galleries left their doors open all night for the French capital's annual "Sleepless Night" festival.

At the train station, twelve DJs performed for crowds wearing headphones at a special "silent disco" event from Saturday to Sunday. The party-goers could choose from three different music channels, dancing to their own rhythms.

Dancer Clementine Schal said she sees the station "differently now." It's normally used for Eurostar trains to London and trains to other points around France and Europe.

In a reference to U.N. climate talks that Paris is hosting in December, City Hall hosted an all-night exhibit of 270 colorful blocks representing melting ice. About 130 events were held throughout the city.

ing, McKinnon says in imitation of Clinton's earnest monotone: "First, I am a grandmother. Second, I am a human, entrusted with this one green Earth."

"Oh," Clinton says, "you're a politician."

And just who is Val? Clinton deadpans, "I'm just an ordinary citizen who believes the Keystone pipeline will destroy our environment."

From there the skit poked gentle fun at Clinton's slow opposition to the contentious pipeline to Canada, her late-arriving support of gay marriage, and her inability to take a vacation. Notably absent was a crack about her private email server, the source of months of criticism from Republican lawmakers and candidates.

Speaking of Republican candidates, at one point Clinton—the real one—mimicked Donald Trump with a hoarse, throaty rendition of his dismissive statement, "Uh, you're all losers."

In a nod to the past, former cast member Darrell Hammond showed up on a barstool as Bill Clinton, who takes a



In this Saturday, Oct. 3, 2015, photo, provided by NBC, Kate McKinnon, left, portraying Hillary Rodham Clinton, and Hillary Rodham Clinton, right, portraying Val, appear during the "Bar Talk" sketch on "Saturday Night Live," in New York. AP

look at Clinton and McKinnon and says, "My god, they're multiplying!"

Overall, the skit was friendly toward Clinton and closed with the former first lady joining McKinnon in singing "Lean on Me." Clinton had another role in the show—introducing the first musical number by host Miley Cyrus.

Clinton has struggled at times to show herself as warm and personable with a sense of humor, qualities that have been valued in modern campaigns driven by broadcast media and now social media. The former secretary of state has already appeared this year on talk shows hosted by Jimmy Fallon and Ellen DeGeneres.

Republicans did not fare nearly as well as "SNL" began its 41st season. The opening sketch made fun of Trump and his wife, Melania, and a faux commercial pitched a pill that cures people of thinking they can be president—specifically low-polling Republican candidates Rick Santorum, Mike Huckabee and Jim Gilmore.

Grateful Dead, John Mayer giving away 10K tickets to NY show



In this Feb. 8, 2015, file photo, John Mayer arrives at the 57th annual Grammy Awards at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. AP

NEW YORK (AP)—Members of the Grateful Dead and John Mayer are giving away 10,000 free tickets to a concert next month.

The veteran band and Mayer, who joined forces for the supergroup Dead & Company this summer, announced Monday that 5,000 fans will have a chance to win two tickets each to their Nov. 7 show in New York City.

The group has partnered with American Express for its music series, "American Express Unstaged," for the sweepstakes. Film director Brett Ratner will direct the concert's livestream from Madison Square Garden.

"People who want to hear the music get to hear it for free and we get to promote our music and share it with people," Bob Weir said in an interview with The Associated Press on Saturday.

Fans can enter to win tickets Monday through Thursday on Dead & Company's website. No tickets for the show will go on sale.

Grateful Dead's Weir, Mickey Hart and Bill Kreutzmann are part of Dead & Company with Mayer; Phil Lesh is not involved.

They group is performing a string of U.S. dates on a fall tour, which kicks off Oct. 29 in Albany, New York.

"We're about halfway in and rehearsals are going well, if I may say," Weir said. "We've been through 45 or 50 tunes and I'm not going to tell you that we have them entirely locked down, but we have a good handle on them."

The band is encouraging fans who attend the show or watch the livestream to donate to the Robin Hood Foundation, an organization fighting poverty in New York City.

Grandson's sleepovers alarm grandma's friend

DEAR ABBY: I have a friend whose 11-year-old grandson stays overnight with her sometimes on the weekends. She has only one bedroom, and I'm concerned because he still sleeps with her in the same bed.

I have mentioned it to her many times, and she says there is nothing wrong with it. I even purchased a nice air mattress, very easy to inflate, which she accepted but doesn't use. I'm upset by this situation. I know she sometimes sleeps in revealing night clothes, although I don't know if she does when her grandson is there.

I find this sick and twisted. I am counting on you to set my friend straight and save this young boy from future turmoil.

PROTECTIVE IN WASHINGTON

DEAR PROTECTIVE: There is an old French saying that approximately translates, "Evil be he who thinks evil of it." I see nothing sick or twisted about a boy who occasionally stays with his grandma and shares her bed, particularly if that's the way it has always been.

When he grows so big that the bed becomes too crowded for his comfort, I'm sure he'll let Granny know. Ultimately, the boy's parents are the ones responsible for his safety. It's likely they know about and approve of the sleeping arrangements.

DEAR ABBY: With online dating becoming popular with older people, I have a question.

Most of us who were married for a number of years and had a good mate learned a lot about how to make life exciting and are experienced about sex. When we meet someone online and start to become involved, how and when would it be the right time to bring up the subject of sex?

For those of us in our later years, sex is usually different than when we were 35. Then there's the subject of STDs. Can we bring that up? In rural and small towns, older women, unlike younger women, are shy about talking about sex. When we start to get serious with someone, shouldn't we find out what they are willing to do and what they won't?

LOOKING AHEAD IN NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR LOOKING AHEAD: Your letter will be of interest to anyone who has been out of the dating scene for a long time. The subject of sex should be addressed once you are comfortable with a person and there is a mutual attraction. Both people's sexual histories should be talked about before you "do the deed." (If you can't talk about it, then you shouldn't do it.) When it does happen, insist that

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



protection is used.

Too often people assume that because there's snow on the roof that there isn't fire in the furnace. News flash: Older folks can and do have active sex lives. So if you're going to "play," be prudent. Some seniors have been shocked to learn they were infected with an STD because they assumed their partner was safe.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested -- poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

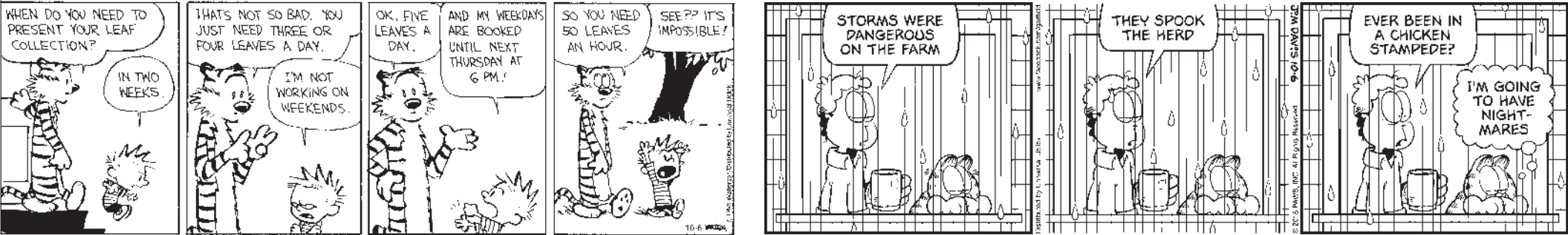
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

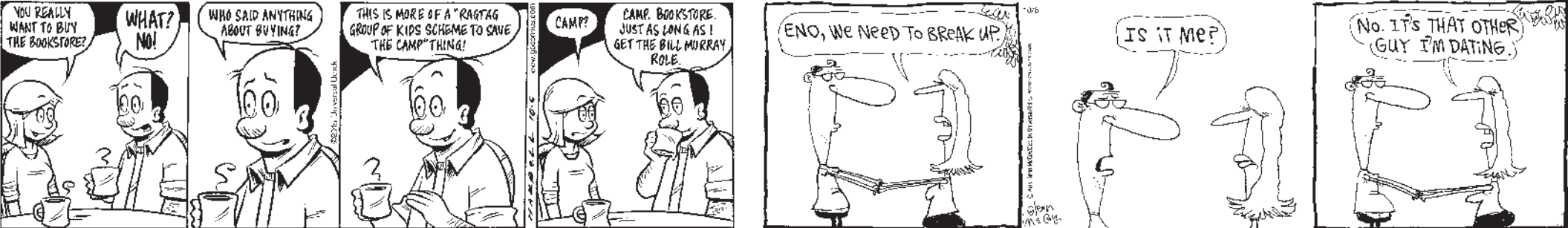


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Call a halt to

5 Bashful

8 Barrel

12 End of a melody

13 Caustic solution

14 Lotion additive

15 Comic-strip pub habitué

17 Un-draped

18 Wrong (Pref.)

19 Inseparable

20 Madison Avenue worker

21 Droop

22 Like some humor

23 Dazzling display

26 Let the air out

30 Hoodlum

31 Scarlet

32 Met melody

33 Musician Benny

35 Go in

36 Sweet potato

37 See 3-Down

38 Correct

41 — Lanka

42 Copper head?

45 Margarine

46 Mr. Fix-it

48 Pebbles' pet

49 Clay, today

50 In the thick of

51 Go looking for

52 Links prop

53 Cook-ware

3 With 37-Across and

44-Down, miscel-lany

4 Remu-neration

5 Word on the street?

6 Advertise to the max

7 "Uh-huh"

8 Game played with "sweet" characters

9 Astrin-gent

10 Pop

11 Acute

16 Outer layer

20 "Bow-wow!"

21 New Jersey peninsula

22 Marry

23 Ovum

24 Bill's part-ner

25 Privy

26 Lair

27 Illustrations

28 Dead heat

29 Listener

31 Aries

34 Yoga surface

35 Okla-homa city

37 Golfer Palmer, to fans

38 Scepters

39 Nastase of tennis lore

40 Kelly or Krupa

41 Store event

42 Bullets

43 Worm, maybe

44 See 3-Down

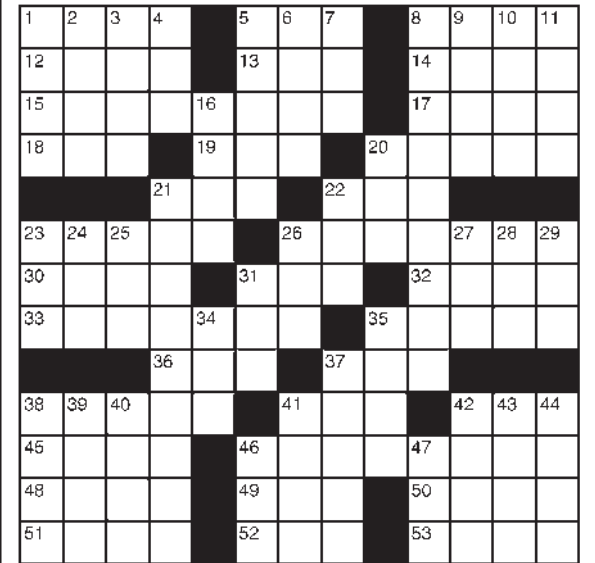
46 Chapeau

47 Shri! bark

Solution time: 22 mins.

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VICE	LAM	NIGH								
GLINT	LIME									
TAR	DRY	ROT								
PALOMAR	S	OVE								
ICON	NET	OPEN								
ERASE	DISSENT									
DENTAL	NAP									
RUIN	WAGON									
DELI	MOB	ROLE								
AMOK	BUY	ERIE								
DUPE	ONE	END								

Yesterday's answer 10-6



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jeremy Sisto, 41; Amy Jo Johnson, 45; Elisabeth Shue, 52; Britt Ekland, 73.

Happy Birthday: Pull everything together this year. It's time to show everyone what you are capable of. You can stabilize your life and your relationships. Discipline and hard work will help you prove that you have more to offer and that you are capable of handling whatever responsibilities you are given. Your solid reputation will be your ticket to success. Your numbers are 4, 12, 18, 24, 30, 37, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Romance, passion and enjoying life should be your aim. Consider a little pick-me-up and update your look or attend an interesting night of entertainment. Relationships will undergo an overhaul. Be ready to reveal your true feelings. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take a trip and listen to what others have to say, and you'll expand your knowledge and have better insight into future trends and what you have to do in order to get ahead. Don't let love cost you financially or emotionally. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Stick close to home and do your best to make domestic improvements that will make both you and those you live with comfortable and content. Stay within your budget and share your plans and decisions with those you love. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Live and learn. The mistakes you have made in the past should help you avoid making the same poor choices now. Make alterations to how

or where you live and you will feel better about your future. A spiritual journey will be enlightening. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Romance is highlighted. Share your ideas with a friend or lover and make changes to the way you do things professionally. Satisfying your dreams, hopes and wishes will lead to greater success and happiness. Be realistic regarding health and money matters. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't believe everything you are told. If someone tries to push or bully you, walk away. Take charge instead of waiting for someone else to take over. Helping others will bring interesting rewards your way. Avoid secret involvements. ****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Be a leader and position yourself for success. Showing compassion and understanding, along with being innovative and offering solutions and suggestions, will give you the edge you need to bring about change and make things happen. Romance is encouraged. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do your own thing. Determination will be all you need to accomplish your goals. You will have an impact on those around you. Some will be cheering you on, and others will be trying to bring you down. Fight for your rights. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your desire for adventure will take over. Make plans to take a day trip or sign up for something that will enhance your skills or knowledge. A romantic commitment will bring favorable changes to the way you live and where. ****

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be careful how you approach people. The less you say, the easier it will be to pursue your goals. Focus on your personal business plan and getting any matters that concern health or settlements put to rest. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll make an impact on someone by mapping out a way to build greater personal security for you and your family. Presenting your plan by incorporating it into your everyday routine will make others take notice. Turn your idea into a service. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Look at the big picture and do whatever it takes to get your ideas up and running. Once you have some momentum, everything else will fall into place and you will find the support you need. Trust in your abilities. ***

Birthday Baby: You are entertaining, tolerant and charming. You are unique and adaptable.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

	4			3						
		8			5					9
		2			4	5	6			
	1	3		5						
5										7
				4		8	2			
	8	6	5			7				
9			8			1				
				7			3			

Difficulty Level ★★

10/06

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

4	5	1	9	3	7	8	2	6
8	2	9	4	1	6	3	5	7
6	3	7	2	8	5	1	9	4
3	1	5	7	9	4	6	8	2
9	4	2	5	6	8	7	3	1
7	8	6	3	2	1	9	4	5
5	7	8	6	4	9	2	1	3
1	6	3	8	5	2	4	7	9
2	9	4	1	7	3	5	6	8

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

TRADITIONAL QUILTMAKING Solution: 9 letters

S G S R O S S I C S P O T H G
T N P E R A U Q S A N E P T N
R I R H W S E I T R T B A O I
I T A R O W S T E S I S R L L
P T Y S T T E D A N T I U C L
B A R E D R O B D N T E L C I
A B R H N M H A E F U L E T F
B L O C K S E M I Q O G R R P
Y G H T S R E G I R A C O A R
Y N S I H R N L L T R N A E
R I T U I P O N A T S B N L
O D M S K P O I F J Y I C G P
M D A C A P V T O W R E A L M
E E A O S R P I E C E S R E A
M B K C O R N E R S P R E S S

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Amish, Applique, Baby, Backing, Baste, Batting, Bedding, Bind, Blocks, Border, Care, Cloth, Corners, Craft, Crib, Filling, Front, Gift, Iron, Join, Layers, Measurements, Memory, Modern, Pattern, Photo, Pieces, Pins, Press, Roll, Rows, Ruler, Sampler, Scissors, Scrap, Sew, Spool, Spray, Square, Stitches, Strip, Thread, Ties, Tops, Triangles, Vintage

Yesterday's Answer: Scaramanga

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 or 43, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

3 Cook (Korean cuisine): \$6.05/hr. At least 2 years' professional cooking experience required.
2 Waiter/Waitress: \$6.05/hr. At least 1 year's experience required.
Email resume to wing@hanmisaipan.com.

(1) Farmer. With 3 years experience. If interested, please send resume to HillTop Farm at Mailex 456 P.O. Box 10005 Saipan, MP 96950.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Gen Maintenance – with 2-5 years experience, preferably have a background of troubleshooting power generator, air conditioner and some equipment used in maintaining the building and equipment used for business. Have a background of carpentry.

Please send your resume at hrislandapparel@gmail.com
NO Phone calls please,
Island Apparel
P.O. Box 502912, Saipan MP 96950

WANTED

One (1) Commercial Cleaner-Maintenance/Expediter

- Minimum five (5) years' experience in related industry.
- Flexible hours
- Must be willing to work day and night shifts.
- Salary: 6:05 p/hr

Email resume to:
mmsablani@yahoo.com

Ermi Ipwan
PMB 455 Box 10001
(670) 285-7173 or 233-0108

Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Adoption Of: M. I. K. (9/29/2014)

FCD-AD-CIVIL ACTION NO. 15-0336

Minor Child

By: Ermi Ipwan and Triphony Kapwich

Petitioner(s)

NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing 10/19/2015 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before the Honorable Judge Govendo.

Dated this 17th day of July, 2015.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(01) SURVEYOR
Rate \$ 7.78 to 8.00 per hour or base on job experienced and qualifications
Must be a college graduate with minimum of 2 years' experience as a surveyor. Make exact measurements and determine property boundaries. Provide data relevant to the shape, contour, gravitation, location, elevation, or dimension of land or land features on or near the earth's surface for engineering, mapmaking, mining, land evaluation, construction, and other purposes. Must be able to work flexible time.

Surveyor job opening will be closed on October 12, 2015. Interested applicants please Apply at Castro and Associates. Located at Capitol Hill Saipan, CNMI, PMB 377 Box 100000, Saipan MP 96950, contact number (670)483-3145 or (670)9890604. A copy of valid Police Clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills testing may be required. Castro and Associates is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School

Is requesting applicants for:

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- Minimum 5 years experience in Seventh-day Adventist School;
- Minimum 5 years experience in a managerial capacity;
- Bachelor's degree in accounting;
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- Knowledge in Quickbooks accounting software preferred;
- Minimum 2 years work experience in a Christian school;

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR:

- Minimum two years of general maintenance experience and supervision.
- Knowledge of plumbing, electrical, building construction, and general maintenance.
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Send resumes to:
Saipan SDA School Principal
P.O. Box 501063 Saipan, MP 96950

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Medical Sales Representative

Required Qualifications:

- U.S. accredited Bachelor's Degree in: Medical Technology, Biomedical Engineering, Chemistry, Biochemistry or related science or medical field.
- Minimum of 2 years experience in the field of Sales of pharmaceuticals, dialysis supplies and equipment, medical supplies and equipment, laboratory reagents and equipment.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills and a good command of the English language. Non-native speakers may be requested to present satisfactory TOEFL or IELTS scores. Experienced in maintaining and monitoring inventories for medical supplies and equipment, dialysis supplies and equipment, and pharmaceuticals.
- Experienced in handling medical equipment and supplies, dialysis equipment and supplies, laboratory reagents and equipment.
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Interested applicants may email a copy of their resume and police clearance to medpharm@medpharmusa.net or call 670-235-5418.

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Announces the following job vacancies:

Certified Optician (1) – At least five years' experience is required; Must have a high level of standard of patient care; must have a knowledge to cut, grind, and polish eyeglasses, contact lenses, or other precision optical elements. Assemble and mount lenses into frames or process other optical elements. Include precision lens polishers or grinders, center-edgers, and lens mounters. Knowledge of principles processes for providing customer, and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of customer satisfaction. Knowledge of arithmetic, algebra, geometry, calculus, statistics, and their applications. Certification is required.

Certified Advanced Optician (1) – At least five years' experience in optical management. Must have a high level of standard of patient care; must have a knowledge to cut, grind, and polish eyeglasses, contact lenses, or other precision optical elements. Assemble and mount lenses into frames or process other optical elements. Include precision lens polishers or grinders, center-edgers, and lens mounters. Knowledge of principles processes for providing customer, and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of customer satisfaction. Knowledge of arithmetic, algebra, geometry, calculus, statistics, and their applications. Advanced certification is required.

Certified Nursing Assistant (2) - Preferably with a degree of Bachelor of Science in nursing or associate degree in nursing; Must be Certified Nursing Assistant with At least five years' work experience is required; Must have a high level of standard of patient care especially in eye care, Can carry level 1 Diabetes Self-Management Education; Good communication skill; Can compose correspondence; Can work under minimum supervision; Be able to multi-task; Self-transportation. Must have specialized knowledge; in computer programs, relating to health care operations; (medical billing, patient electronic records, and scheduler), Must have an experience in Orthoptics, preoptic is essential.

Submit application at Hardt Eye Clinic, Inc. dba Hardt Eye Clinic; Diabetes Education Center located, Chalan Laulau, Beach Road, Saipan, Salary commensurate to credentials and qualification.

JOE HILL, Esq.,
HILL LAW OFFICES
P.O. Box 500917, Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: (670) 234-6806/7743
FAX: (670) 234-7753

Attorney for Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORMA T. BALAJADIA
Petitioner,

versus

JOVITO P. GORDON
Respondent.

FCD DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 15-0410

SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HERBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Petition for Divorce which is given you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of this Summons upon you.
YOUR ANSWER SHOULD BE IN WRITING and filed with the Clerk of Court, Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950 and served upon petitioner's counsel, Atty. Joe Hill, P.O. Box 500917, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.
If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Divorce
By order of the above Court:

Dated this 8th day of September, 2015

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court
Superior Court

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Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Freeman leads Falcons to another win, 48-21, over Texans



ATLANTA (AP)—Devonta Freeman scored three touchdowns and the Atlanta Falcons remained unbeaten, romping to a 48-21 victory over the hapless Houston Texans on Sunday.

Freeman, who took over as the starting running back after rookie Tevin Coleman sustained a rib injury in Week 2, has scored six TDs in the last two games. The Falcons improved to 4-0 for only the fourth time in club history.

Freeman had touchdown runs of 16, 23 and 6 yards. He set up another score with a 44-yard reception.

Nothing went right for the Texans (1-3). Quarterback Ryan Mallett was yanked after the Falcons built a 42-0 lead. Running back Arian Foster made his season debut after tearing his groin early in training camp, but he couldn't find room to run. He even had the ball knocked out of his hands by one of his own teammates, leading to a Falcons touchdown.



Atlanta Falcons cornerback Travis Howard (33) leaps over Houston Texans cornerback Kevin Johnson (30) during the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Oct. 4, 2015, in Atlanta.

Saints 26, Cowboys 20, OT

In New Orleans, Drew Brees hit C.J. Spiller with a short pass that the running back turned into an 80-yard touchdown—the 400th of the Saints quarterback's career—on the second play of overtime, and New Orleans won for the first time this season.

Brees, who missed New Orleans' previous game because of a bruised rotator cuff in his right (throwing) shoulder, completed 32 of 39 throws for 279 yards in his return. Mark Ingram gained 126 yards from scrimmage, and Khiry Robinson had a 1-yard touchdown run for New Orleans (1-3).

Joseph Randle scored the lone TD for Dallas (2-2) on a 1-yard run in the first half. The winning score enlivened a Superdome crowd stunned by Saints kicker Zach Hocker's 30-yard miss in the final seconds of regulation.

Bengals 36, Chiefs 21

In Cincinnati, Andy Dalton added to his streak of impressive games and big plays, throwing a 55-yard touchdown pass on the run, and Cincinnati stayed unbeaten.

The Bengals (4-0) matched the third-best start in franchise history, two wins shy of the club record.

Dalton completed 17 of 24

for 321 yards with the long touchdown pass to Brandon Tate during a scramble.

Alex Smith was sacked five times, the Chiefs (1-3) settled for Cairo Santos' club-record seven field goals, and the defense couldn't keep up with another one of the NFL's top passers.

Panthers 37, Buccaneers 23

In Tampa, Fla., Cam Newton threw for two touchdowns and Josh Norman returned one of Carolina's four interceptions of Jameis Winston for his second TD of the season.

Newton tossed scoring passes of 6 and 12 yards to Ted Ginn Jr. A week after making a game-saving interception in the end zone against New Orleans, Norman scored on a 46-yard run back and later returned a another pick 34 yards to set up a second TD.

The Panthers improved to 4-0 for the first time since 2003. The Bucs (1-3) have dropped 11 consecutive home games.

Packers 17, 49ers 3

In Santa Clara, Calif., Aaron Rodgers passed for 224 yards and a touchdown, ran 17 yards to set up a key second-half score,

and the Packers are off to their first 4-0 start in four years.

Richard Rodgers caught a 9-yard touchdown pass on the game's opening drive before Rodgers got his team going in the second half after a slow beginning to snap a four-game losing streak to San Francisco, which included a pair of playoff defeats.

Clay Matthews added his own flair to this one. When he sacked Colin Kaepernick in the third quarter, he kissed his right biceps Kaepernick-style to punctuate the play — one of Green Bay's six sacks.

While methodical with nothing fancy, Green Bay (4-0) seemed unfazed with a short week and long trip West after beating Kansas City last Monday night. San Francisco is 1-3.

Broncos 23, Vikings 20

In Denver, Brandon McManus kicked a 39-yard field goal with 1:51 left and Denver had seven sacks.

Von Miller smothered the loose ball after T.J. Ward's sack-strip of Teddy Bridgewater in the closing seconds, sealing the win for the unbeaten Broncos (4-0), who got a 72-yard touchdown run from Ronnie Hillman.

Peyton Manning has led his teams to a 4-0 start seven times, most in NFL history by a long shot. Next up at four is Fran Tarkenton. Manning also joined Brett Favre as the only QBs to win 100 home starts in the NFL.

It wasn't a great day for Manning, who was picked off twice by the Vikings (2-2).

Adrian Peterson ran for a 48-yard touchdown to pull Minnesota to 20-17 and cap a 97-yard drive with 10 minutes left.

Rams 24, Cardinals 22

In Glendale, Ariz., Todd Gurley rushed for all but 2 of 146 yards in the second half and the Rams held on to hand the Cardinals their first loss of the season.

Gurley, the Rams' first-round draft pick, saw his most extensive action as a pro and his 52-yard run set up the winning touchdown.

Nick Foles threw for three touchdowns, two after Arizona turnovers, and St. Louis' defense held the Cardinals (3-1) to field goals on four of five trips inside the red zone.

Arizona had a third-and-2 at the Rams 43 in the final minutes, but Carson Palmer overthrew receivers on consecutive plays to

turn the ball over on downs.

The Rams (2-2) are 2-0 against the NFC West.

Chargers 30, Browns 27

In San Diego, rookie Josh Lambo got his first game-winning kick in the NFL. Given a second chance due to a penalty, Lambo kicked a 34-yard field goal as time expired, lifting the San Diego Chargers to a 30-27 victory against the Cleveland Browns on Sunday, snapping a two-game losing streak.

Lambo was wide right on a 39-yard attempt with :02 left, but Cleveland's Tramon Williams was whistled for offside. Lambo then hit his third field goal of the game.

The Browns (1-3) had tied it at 27 on Josh McCown's 1-yard pass to Gary Barnidge with 2:09 to play and a 2-point conversion pass to Taylor Gabriel. That score was set up when the Browns won a challenge of McCown's 19-yard pass to Barnidge that originally was ruled incomplete.

Philip Rivers was 23 of 38 for 358 yards and three touchdowns for San Diego (2-2). McCown was 32 of 41 for 356 yards and two scores.

Jets 27, Dolphins 14

In London, Chris Ivory ran for a career-high 166 yards and Ryan Fitzpatrick threw for 218, one touchdown and one interception to lead the Jets at Wembley Stadium in the first division game played in London.

Miami's Ndamukong Suh, the highest-paid defensive player in league history, had three tackles—the first in the third quarter—and no sacks.

Both teams have byes next week, as usual for teams playing in London. Miami (1-3) will face lots of questions about its poor performances thus far.

Fitzpatrick threw for 172 yards in the first half, including a 58-yard completion to Brandon Marshall on the first play for the Jets (3-1).

Redskins 23, Eagles 20

In Landover, Md., Kirk Cousins threw a 4-yard touchdown pass to Pierre Garcon with 26 seconds left for Washington.

Starting at their own 10 with a little more than six minutes remaining, the Redskins (2-2) drove 90 yards on 15 plays to take the lead for good in a back-

and-forth game.

Cousins finished 31 for 46 for 290 yards and no turnovers. Sam Bradford threw three second-half touchdown passes for the Eagles (1-3), but their new kicker, Caleb Sturgis, missed an extra-point attempt and a 33-yard field-goal try.

Bears 22, Raiders 20

In Chicago, Jay Cutler threw for two touchdowns and redeemed himself following an interception by helping set up a 49-yard field goal by Robbie Gould with 2 seconds left for Chicago.

It was the Bears' first win under coach John Fox.

The Raiders (2-2) grabbed the lead on a field goal by Sebastian Janikowski with just over two minutes remaining that was set up by an interception by Charles Woodson deep in Oakland territory.

Cutler then led Chicago (1-3) from its 20 to the Oakland 32 before Gould nailed the winner.

Giants 24, Bills 10

In Orchard Park, N.Y., Rashad Jennings broke three tackles to score on a 51-yard touchdown catch midway through the fourth quarter for New York.

Eli Manning went 20 of 35 for 212 yards and three touchdowns for the Giants (2-2). New York's defense did the rest with Prince Amukamara stripping receiver Robert Woods of the ball to force a fumble with 3:41 left.

The Bills (2-2) were called for 17 penalties totaling 135 yards.

Colts 16, Jaguars 13, OT

In Indianapolis, Adam Vinatieri kicked a 27-yard field goal with 4:36 left in overtime to give Indianapolis an NFL record-tying 15th consecutive win over a division opponent.

The 1972-73 Miami Dolphins also win 15 straight.

Matt Hasselbeck made his first start since November 2012 in place of the injured Andrew Luck, and led the Colts (2-2) on a 53-yard march to step up the winning points.

The Jaguars (1-3) lined up twice for field goals with 6 seconds left in regulation, but Jason Myers' first attempt from 53 yards sailed wide right — just after the Colts had called timeout. Myers' second chance also went wide right. Then in overtime, his 48-yard attempt went wide left.



MILAN (AP)—After a couple of days in Milan, Isaiah Thomas' Italian experience is still lacking a certain something.

"I'm waiting on some pizza," said a laughing Thomas, who used to do commercials for a regional pizza franchise when he played for the Sacramento Kings. "The place we went to last night didn't have no pizza so hopefully tonight we go somewhere I can order some pizza for real."

This trip isn't just about culinary experiences, though. The

Pizza and soccer on agenda for Celtics on trip to Italy

Celtics are in Milan to play an exhibition game against Olimpia Milano on Tuesday before traveling to Spain to play Real Madrid as part of the NBA Global Games.

Ahead of the team's practice session on Sunday, Thomas was also looking forward to his first soccer match, as the Celtics headed to San Siro later for AC Milan's home match against Napoli in the Italian league — after an afternoon trip to nearby Lake Como.

"That's going to be fun," Thomas told The Associated Press at the Celtics' first practice in Italy. "I'm excited about that. I've never been to a soccer match, to have my first soccer match be in Italy is going to be nice."

Teammate Marcus Smart said the trip was also an important bonding experience for a young roster with plenty of new pieces. They went for a players-only meal in Milan on Saturday night.

"We had a good time with

each other," Smart said. "No phones, so everyone was talking to one other. It was good overall fun."

"We understand the severity of this trip, it is a business trip but at the same time not many people get this chance to travel like we do so we understand its business but we're here to have fun at the same time."

Coach Brad Stevens has overseen plenty of rebuilding since taking over the Celtics in

2013 but still led the team to the playoffs last season after trading point guard Rajon Rondo—the only remaining player from the 2008 championship team. After being swept by the Cleveland Cavaliers, the team is aiming higher this season. For Stevens, it all starts here in Italy.

"These sessions are really important to get something accomplished in practice and to make sure that we're continuing to progress," Stevens said. "It's

still very much a part of our training camp, and so you've got all of the great things about being a tourist — getting a chance to see new things and experience new things—and at the same time we're 24 or 25 days away from our season opener."

And after spending so many hours in the gym during the off-season, Thomas is ready to start playing actual games again—even if it's just preseason.

"We're ready to beat up on somebody else, we're tired of beating up on each other," Smith said.

Rangers win AL West on final day, Hamels beat Angels, 9-2



ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Cole Hamels

and the Texas Rangers finally clinched the American League West title on the last day of the regular season.

Hamels pitched a three-hitter and Adrian Beltre hit a go-ahead homer as the Rangers beat the Angels 9-2 Sunday, eliminating Los Angeles from playoff contention.

A year after their 95 losses were the most in the American League, two months after they were still eight games out of first place and three days after ensuring themselves a postseason spot, the Rangers wrapped up their sixth division title.

Texas plays its first AL division series game since 2011 on Thursday at Toronto.

Moments after the final out, AL West championship banners already were flying at the ballpark. The Rangers will go there under first-year manager Jeff Banister, whose team lost ace Yu Darvish to Tommy John surgery before the season started.

Diamondbacks 5, Astros 3

In Phoenix, Houston is going to the playoffs for the first time in a decade despite ending the regular season with a loss.

The Astros led the AL wild-card race by a game heading into Sunday. They shared a few high fives in the dugout in the eighth inning after clinching it when the Angels lost to Texas.

Houston finished 86-76 to reach the postseason for the first time since playing the Chicago White Sox in the 2005 World Series. The Astros will play their first AL playoff game Tuesday night, against the New York Yankees at Yankee Stadium.

Not bad for a team that had three 100-loss seasons before going 70-92 in 2014.

Pirates 4, Reds 0

In Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh clinched home field in the National League wild card game, winning behind J.A. Happ's stellar outing and Pedro Alvarez's long homer.

The Pirates (98-64) locked up the right to host the Chicago Cubs (97-65) Wednesday night in a winner-take-all playoff with a victory on the final day of the regular season.

Despite having the second-best record in the major leagues, the Pirates finished second to the St. Louis Cardinals in the NL Central. Pittsburgh will host the wild card game for the third straight year after beating Cincinnati in 2013 and losing to the San Francisco Giants last season.

The Pirates had 20 straight losing seasons, the longest streak in major North American professional sports history, before their current run of postseason appearances.



Dodgers 6, Padres 3

In Los Angeles, Clayton Kershaw struck out seven batters in an abbreviated start to become the first pitcher in 13 years to reach 300 strikeouts, as NL West champion Los Angeles closed the regular season on a five-game winning streak.

Kershaw finished with 301 strikeouts and joined former Arizona teammates Randy Johnson (2000-02) and Curt Schilling (2002) as the only pitchers since 2000 to reach 300 strikeouts in a season. Kershaw became the second to do so in Dodgers history; his mentor Sandy Koufax accomplished the feat three times in the mid-1960s.

Kershaw allowed two hits and no walks on 60 pitches over 3 2/3 scoreless innings. The left-hander completed his final tune-up before the Dodgers open the NL Division Series against the New York Mets at home Friday. He is likely to start Game 1 against Jacob deGrom and the NL East champions, although the Dodgers have yet to announce their rotation.

The Padres announced after the game that interim manager Pat Murphy won't lead the team next year.

Cubs 3, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, The Chicago Cubs beat the Milwaukee Brewers 3-1 on Sunday for their eighth straight win, but will have to play the NL wild card game in Pittsburgh.

Even with the itinerary now taking them to PNC Park, the Cubs head into their first postseason appearance since 2008 brimming with confidence. Chicago ended the regular season with a three-game sweep in Milwaukee.

Anthony Rizzo had a two-run single with the bases loaded in the first to reach a career-high 101 RBIs on the season. Starter Dan Haren (11-9) allowed three hits and a walk in six innings.

The rebuilding Brewers finished with 94 losses, 14 more than 2014.

The franchise is headed into

an offseason of change under new general manager David Stearns.

Double-A call-up Jorge Lopez (1-1) went five innings and gave up three runs, all in the first.

Rays 12, Blue Jays 3

In St. Petersburg, Mark Buehrle failed to become the fifth major leaguer to pitch 200 innings or more in 15 consecutive seasons as AL East champion Toronto missed out on home-field advantage throughout the playoffs.

Starting for the second time in three days, Buehrle (15-8) needed two innings to reach the milestone, but he failed to get through the first.

Two errors led to Buehrle allowing eight unearned runs and five hits over a career-low two-thirds of an inning. He had gone 6 2-3 innings Friday night en route to his 15th win.

Chris Colabello and Darwin Barney homered for the Blue Jays, who needed a win and a Kansas City loss to finish with the AL's best record.

David Price is scheduled to start Game 1 of the Blue Jays' AL Division series Thursday at home against AL West champion Texas. Toronto ended the regular season at 93-69, a 10-game improvement over last season.

Orioles 9, Yankees 4

In Baltimore, New York stumbled into home-field advantage in the AL wild-card game after a loss by Houston made the outcome of this one meaningless.

New York will enter Tuesday's winner-take-all game against the Astros with little positive momentum after being swept in three games by Baltimore and losing six of their final seven regular-season games. The Yankees fell behind 7-1 in the fifth inning and stranded 11 runners.

New York was 4 for 31 with runners in scoring position in closing the series, including 1 for 12 Sunday.

Royals 6, Twins 1

In Minneapolis, Salvador Perez added to his career-best home run total and Johnny Cueto tossed five solid innings as Kansas City secured home-field advantage throughout the postseason.

Perez hit his 21st homer in the third inning, one behind Kendrys Morales and Mike Moustakas for the team lead.

Cueto (4-7 with Royals, 11-13 overall) allowed one run over five innings, helping the Royals finish on a five-game winning streak.

The right-hander, whose transition to the AL since a trade from Cincinnati has hardly been smooth, surrendered six hits and four walks. Cueto struck out the last two batters to leave the bases loaded in the fourth after giving up an RBI single to Danny Santana.

The defending AL champion Royals (95-67) posted their best regular-season record since the 1980 team went 97-65.

Ricky Nolasco (5-2) started for the Twins for the first time since May 31 and lasted only 2 2-3 innings.

Mets 1, Nationals 0

In New York, Jacob deGrom looked especially sharp in his abbreviated playoff tuneup as NL East champion New York finally scored on Curtis Granderson's eighth-inning homer.

One day after Washington ace Max Scherzer pitched a no-hitter with 17 strikeouts to complete a doubleheader sweep, the Mets (90-72) made a run at a combined no-hitter of their own. They reached 90 wins for the first time in nine years and stopped a five-game losing streak that cost them home-field advantage in the Division Series against the Dodgers.

Next up, deGrom starts Game 1 in the best-of-five matchup Friday at Los Angeles.

Seven pitchers combined to hold Washington to two hits—the first was Clint Robinson's two-out single in the seventh in-

ning off reliever Jonathon Niese.

Phillies 7, Marlins 2

In Philadelphia, Dee Gordon went 3 for 4 with a home run and a double to win the NL batting title over Washington's Bryce Harper and outfielder Ichiro Suzuki pitched the eighth inning, but Philadelphia avoided a 100-loss season.

Gordon became the first NL player to lead the league in batting average (.333) and stolen bases (58) in the same season since Jackie Robinson did so in 1949, according to the Marlins citing the Elias Sports Bureau.

Harper went 1 for 4 Sunday and finished at .330.

Luis Garcia (4-6) stranded two runners in the seventh and earned the win. Andre Rienzo (0-1) allowed four runs in the seventh without recording an out.

Suzuki allowed a run on two doubles.

The Phillies finished with the worst record in the majors at 63-99.

Braves 6, Cardinals 0, game 1 Braves 2, Cardinals 0, game 2

In Atlanta, Matt Wisler allowed four hits over 8 2-3 innings as Atlanta won for a doubleheader sweep that sent St. Louis' batters to the playoffs with a 27-inning scoreless streak. St. Louis was held to seven hits in the doubleheader, which included a loss to Shelby Miller in the first game that ended Miller's 24-start winless streak. The Braves won 4-0 Friday.

Wisler (8-8) won each of his last three starts, allowing a combined three runs.

Pinch-hitter Brandon Moss doubled with one out in the ninth to become the Cardinals' first runner in scoring position off Wisler. Jon Jay hit a groundout to first, Tommy Pham walked and Edwin Jackson struck out Randal Grichuk to end the game.

St. Louis, which won its third straight NL Central title, opens the Division Series at home Friday against the Chicago Cubs or Pittsburgh.

Rockies 7, Giants 3

In San Francisco, Corey Dickerson hit a three-run homer and pinch-hitter Justin Morneau delivered a two-run single as Colorado rallied for seven runs in the ninth inning.

The Giants finished 84-78, a year after winning 88 games in the regular season and going on to take their third World Series title in five seasons.

Colorado's comeback spoiled Matt Cain's outing. He started for the first time in six weeks and pitched two-hit ball for five scoreless innings.

The Giants wound up using 11 pitchers. They took a two-hit shutout into the final inning before the Rockies rallied. Charlie Blackmon also drove in a pair of runs for the Rockies.

Rex Brothers (1-0) pitched a scoreless eighth for the win. George Kontos (4-4) took the loss.

Indians 3, Red Sox 1

In Cleveland, Danny Salazar finished his first season as a full-time starter on a positive note, allowing one run in 5 1-3 innings to win for just the second time in six starts.

Salazar (14-10) began the season at Triple-A Columbus, a demotion that served as a wake-up call for the 25-year-old, who bounced back and tied Carlos Carrasco for the team lead in wins.

The Indians battled inconsistency all season and finished 81-80, only the second time they were above .500 after April 9.

Boston starter Rick Porcello (9-15) came up short in his bid to hit double-digit wins for the seventh straight season.

Mariners 3, Athletics 2

In Seattle, Seth Smith hit a two-out, solo home run in the bottom of the eighth as Seattle rallied.

Smith's 12th homer of the season came off reliever Ryan Dull (1-2) and just eluded the leap of Sam Fuld in deep center field. Seattle avoided being swept in the final series of the season and finished at 76-86, 11 games worse than last season, when the Mariners were in playoff contention until the final day of the regular season.

Logan Kensing (2-1) pitched 1 2-3 innings for the victory. Tom Wilhelmson struck out the side in the ninth for his 13th save, a night after blowing a save opportunity.

Tigers 6, White Sox 0

In Chicago, Daniel Norris allowed just one hit for five innings and Tyler Collins had a bases-clearing triple as Detroit finished its first-to-worst tumble in the AL Central.

The Tigers (74-87) entered this season the four-time defending division champion but were hurt by significant injuries and shaky pitching in falling to last place for the first time in seven years.

Chicago finished the season at 76-86, in fourth in the Central, a slight improvement over last year, when the Sox won 73 games.

Norris (3-2) didn't give up a hit until Trayce Thompson's triple in the fourth. Thompson was stranded on third, however, when Alexei Ramirez hit into an inning-ending double play.

Nearly 50 join tryout for EAFF tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Nearly 50 players participated in the first day of tryout for the CNMI U13 National Team last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association scheduled the series of tryouts to select the players who will represent the CNMI to the East Asian Football Federation Boys U13 Festival 2015 that will be held in Guam later this year. NMIFA organized three tryout/training sessions with the second one set yesterday at the Koblerville Elementary School Field and the third and last slated today at 4pm back at the Oleai pitch.

Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong technical director Luam Khen Koo and CNMI Women's All-Star Team members Angie Ito and Lalaine Pagarao facilitated the two-hour tryout last weekend. They divided the participants into three groups and required players to do drills to gauge their skills.

"Move quickly and always look where the ball is heading and where the other players are," Koo said during the tryout



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong technical director Luam Khen Koo watches U13 players perform drills during a try out for the CNMI youth team that will participate in the East Asian Football Federation Boys U13 Festival 2015 in Guam next month.

as players dribbled around the disc cones.

Players from Tan Holdings Football Club, MP United FC, Shirley's FC, Paire FC, Matansa FC, and Kanoa FC attended last weekend's tryout and some of them are also from the same team that went to Beijing, China last month to participate in the AFC U14 Regional Festival of Football.

Of the nearly 50 players,

30 will be initially selected to make up the training pool. For the final cut, only 18 players will be picked to represent the Commonwealth to the EAFF-sanctioned competition that will run from Nov. 11 to 14.

Players who will be named to the CNMI U13 National Team will challenge teams from Chinese-Taipei, North Korea, Macau, Hong Kong, Mongolia,

and host Guam.

"This is a very good opportunity for our young players to represent the CNMI and compete at an international level," NMIFA general secretary Ross Zapanta said in the invitation sent out to the different football club officials.

The invitations were sent just two days before the first tryout took place as NMIFA only received information about the festival late last week.

Purple Rain gets last playoff seat

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Purple Rain punched the last playoff ticket in the 2015 Blue Haus/IT&E Inter-Color Basketball League after pulling off an upset over Hard Kulangot, 81-68, last Sunday at the Navy Hill Court.

Purple Rain finished the elimination round with a 3-5 record for seventh place in the team standings to join six other squads to the playoff phase of the nine-team field. Hard Kulangot (4-3) is also in the playoffs despite the loss and was scheduled to play the continuation of its suspended match against Kidlat last night to determine its final position. Makalaro Lang (6-2), Pasion De Amor (5-2), Red Rice (5-3), Mamba (5-3) and Oh My J (4-3) are the other playoff qualifiers, while Kidlat (1-5) and Eh Di Wow (0-8) are eliminated.

Donnel Isip led Purple Rain's playoff seat-clinching win after scoring 21 points. He made important baskets in the home stretch to keep Purple Rain's safe distance, including three straight field goals. Thirteen of his total points came in the second half, including 6 of the team's last 8 markers.

Paul Bautista and Bruce Berline backed up Isip, chipping in 15 and 14 points, respectively, while the team's four other scorers contributed at least 7 markers apiece to deny Hard Kulangot a chance for the outright semis berth.

Coming into last Sunday's lone game, Hard Kulangot was holding a 4-2 record and a win over Purple Rain coupled with

a victory against Kidlat would have given the former a 6-2 mark. Hard Kulangot would have tied Makalaro Lang for the top spot and possibly Pasion De Amor (if it won against Oh My J last night). The top finisher in the elimination will get the automatic semis slot, while the No. 2 to 7 placers will fight for the three remaining semis tickets.

Meanwhile, Red Rice also prevailed in its last game in the elimination after downing Purple Rain last Friday, 68-63.

Angelo Fernando and Michael Cabanas had double figures for Red Rice, scoring 17 and 15 points, respectively. Darwin Barbo missed the twin-digit mark, nailing only 9 points, but he knocked in three crucial free throws and tallied 5 of his total output in the home stretch. Fernando also canned two charities, while Cabanas had a spit to seal it for Red Rice.

FRIDAY

Red Rice 68 – Fernando 17, Cabanas 15, Barbo 9, Anasan 8, Saplan 8, Chan 5, Lizardo 4, Marilla 2.

Purple Rain 63 – Reyes 19, Bautista 14, Berline 13, Leomo 6, Isip 5, Flores 4, Deleon Guerrero 2.

Scoring by halves: 39-37, 68-63.

SUNDAY

Purple Rain 81 – Isip 21, Bautista 15, Berline 14, Flores 9, Deleon Guerrero 8, Reyes 7, Leomo 7.

Hard Kulangot 68 – Barrios 28, De Dios 11, Ibanez 8, Lontoc 7, Pollisco 6, Cuktura 6, Garcia 2.

Scoring by halves: 37-34, 81-68.

Pretty in Pink 35K Mountain Bike Race a success

In an effort to promote awareness about breast cancer and the importance of preventative health care, the Bikers Association of Tinian and the Pretty in Pink Foundation held their 3rd Annual "Pedal for Progress" 35K Mountain Bike Race last Saturday, Oct. 3.

All registered participants for this year's event were given the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for the chance to win a brand new Cannondale mountain bike and an all pink bike donated by Triple J. This year's event had over 50 registered participants.

Tinian's mountain bike riders

came out in full support donning neon pink T-shirts during the race. The race, which began at 7am at Kammer Beach, took the riders on a tour around the island on Tinian's old military-paved roads.

This year's overall Top 3 male riders were Charlie Cabreros and Rhenmer Remilosa who both came in at 1:20:15. Winston Omar followed thereafter with a time of 1:21:45. In the women's division, Kimberly King-Hinds came in first at 1:28:30 followed by Felicia Reynolds (1:43:31) and Maggie Sarmiento (1:58:32).

After the race, Pretty in Pink

Tinian organizer Margo Gifford handed out over 200 breast self-exam kits. The kits were purchased from the \$3,500 that was raised during last year's mountain bike race. Gifford, a breast cancer survivor, demonstrated how to use the self-exam kits and expressed the importance of early detection, most especially for surviving breast cancer. Serafina King-Nabors, also a breast cancer survivor, encouraged both men and women the importance of annual physicals and preventative health maintenance.

BAT president Dawn Sarmiento, race organizer Rich-

ard Lazaro, and Pretty in Pink Tinian representative Margo Gifford extends their sincere appreciation to the Tinian Mayor's Office, Tinian Municipal Council, JC Cafe, Taro Sue, Coca Cola, MarPac, Tinian Elementary School, Star Marianas Air, IT&E, Bali Fashion, Triple J, Bank of Guam, Island Apparel, Zack CD Rack, Pastor Connie and Grace Christian Academy, Serafina King-Nabors, Kimberly King-Hinds, Derek Gifford, Dr. Aldan, Don Power, Marianas Visitors Authority, Jeff Barr, and all the volunteers, for their continued support and sponsorship of this year's event. (PR)

SAIPAN

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NFL," the 15-year-old added.

Dela Cruz, who looks up to Pittsburgh Steelers defensive end Cam Heyward, both play defensive tackle and offensive guard.

ATTAO

From Page 28

next for the young BJJ practitioner is Trench Tech's Art of War later this year.

Meanwhile, besides Attao, three other CNMI bets participated in the Copa De Marianas. Attao was joined by his brother Lorenzo, Ty Deleon Guerrero, and Hyun Woo Jo. They managed to compete in the weekend tournament despite failing to organize a fundraiser due to Typhoon Soudelor after getting help from Best Sunshine International, Ltd. and Imperial Pa-

"But I am able to play anywhere on the defensive or offensive line," added the high school freshman.

Dela Cruz said before he joined the Warriors, he regularly ran or jogged to keep in shape. Being part of the team made him more aggressive in training.

cific International chief services officer Tao Xing.

The Attaos and their two other teammates represented RONINZ, which the siblings founded after their former group—the Gracie Barra Gym (CNMI) of Sempì Peter and Francis Mendiola—closed down due to funding problems. The Attao brothers are allowed to establish and operate RONINZ after Lorenzo got his blue belt promotion. The siblings will hold free BJJ lessons for a couple of hours every week for children that are at risk of delinquency.

"We practice two to three hours everyday but during the summer we practice four to six hours. My motivation was to always show people what I can do," said Dela Cruz, who also supports the University of Southern California Trojans, especially

MCC

From Page 28

opened nine holes and the next nine a week after. The entire golf course was fully operational after one month," he added.

Thomson said they found out that MCC suffered minimal damage when they made the assessment a few days after the typhoon.

"The pro shop's building and some of the golf carts got damaged. Debris can be seen all over the golf course. Other than that, there's not that much damage," said Thomson.

"The big trees, which were plant-

ed as part of the golf design were uprooted. These are big, old trees and were there since MCC opened.

Maybe the fallen trees can be part of the hazards on the course," Thomson said with a laugh.

MCC, a Toshio Suzuki-designed layout located in Saipan's northern side in Marpi, lost an estimated revenue of about \$50,000 in the one month it was closed.

Construction of MCC began in the late 1970s and the first nine holes opened in 1980 and the entire 18-hole course, which has water hazards around the green at holes No. 5 and 6, was fully operational two years later.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Toronto	93	69	.574	—
y-New York	87	75	.537	6
Baltimore	81	81	.500	12
Tampa Bay	80	82	.494	13
Boston	78	84	.481	15

Central Division

x-Kansas City	95	67	.586	—
Minnesota	83	79	.512	12
Cleveland	81	80	.503	13½
Chicago	76	86	.469	19
Detroit	74	87	.460	20½

West Division

x-Texas	88	74	.543	—
y-Houston	86	76	.531	2
Los Angeles	85	77	.525	3
Seattle	76	86	.469	12
Oakland	68	94	.420	20

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

x-New York	90	72	.556	—
Washington	83	79	.512	7
Miami	71	91	.438	19
Atlanta	67	95	.414	23
Philadelphia	63	99	.389	27

Central Division

x-St. Louis	100	62	.617	—
y-Pittsburgh	98	64	.605	2
y-Chicago	97	65	.599	3
Milwaukee	68	94	.420	32
Cincinnati	64	98	.395	36

West Division

x-Los Angeles	92	70	.568	—
San Francisco	84	78	.519	8
Arizona	79	83	.488	13
San Diego	74	88	.457	18
Colorado	68	94	.420	24

x-clinched division
y-clinched wild card

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	3	0	0	1.000	119	70
N.Y. Jets	3	1	0	.750	95	55
Buffalo	2	2	0	.500	110	92
Miami	1	3	0	.250	65	101

South

Indianapolis	2	2	0	.500	72	93
Tennessee	1	2	0	.333	89	77
Houston	1	3	0	.250	77	108
Jacksonville	1	3	0	.250	62	107

North

Cincinnati	4	0	0	1.000	121	77
Pittsburgh	2	2	0	.500	96	75
Baltimore	1	3	0	.250	93	104
Cleveland	1	3	0	.250	85	102

West

Denver	4	0	0	1.000	97	69
Oakland	2	2	0	.500	97	108
San Diego	2	2	0	.500	96	110
Kansas City	1	3	0	.250	100	125

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Dallas	2	2	0	.500	95	101
N.Y. Giants	2	2	0	.500	102	82
Washington	2	2	0	.500	78	79
Philadelphia	1	3	0	.250	78	86

South

Carolina	4	0	0	1.000	108	71
Atlanta	4	0	0	1.000	137	93
Tampa Bay	1	3	0	.250	72	117
New Orleans	1	3	0	.250	86	104

North

Green Bay	4	0	0	1.000	113	71
Minnesota	2	2	0	.500	80	73
Chicago	1	3	0	.250	68	125
Detroit	0	3	0	.000	56	83

West

Arizona	3	1	0	.750	148	73
St. Louis	2	2	0	.500	74	89
Seattle	1	2	0	.333	74	61
San Francisco	1	3	0	.250	48	110

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Saipan Electronic Darts Association Bud Light Cup Champions

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Members of the Jokers Atarashi Boyz are awarded the Tuesday B Bud Light Cup championship trophies during the awards banquet held last Aug. 30 at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret. .



The Darty Flights, the Bud Light Cup's Chichirika division winners, are one of the five teams that are supported by Jokers Bar & Grill.



The Jokers Destroyers remain the Masters Division title holders.



The Jokers Latte Sparts rule the Fanihi Division.



The Jokers Spartans are the top team in the Kingfisher Division.



Jonny's Kyodai clinches the Flame Tree Division trophy.



The Sand Juvy Vicious Darties bag the Ladies Division tiara.



The Smoke Pub Voyagers celebrate their victory in the A Division.



Freeman leads
Falcons to
another win, 48-
21 over Texans

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Nearly 50 join
tryout for EAFF
tournament

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28 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Attao wins gold in Guam BJJ event



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan Southern High School's Jesus Attao struck gold in the 2015 Copa De Marianas BJJ Gi & No Gi Tournament held last Saturday at the Father Duenas Phoenix Center in Guam.

Attao topped the Gi division (white belt) in the 161-175-lbs weight class after registering a 2-0 record in his category.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, Attao said both of his opponents were from Guam and he earned his first victory via key lock arm submission on side control in the second minute of the five-minute bout. For his second win and the battle for the gold medal, it was decided by points.

"We ended up tied after the round at 2-2, but I had a 2-0 advantage on points so I won," Attao said. "My opponents were tough so I have to remind myself to be aggressive always and be on top."

The 16-year-old Attao also joined the No Gi contest in the same weight class and missed

the podium finish by just one notch. He won his first match,

but dropped the last two, including the battle for the bronze.

"Overall, I am happy with the way I performed in my second tournament in Guam," said Attao, who joined the similar tournament, which was then known as Marianas Open, two years ago.

Attao first competed in the teen division of the Guam tournament before moving up to the adult category last weekend. Up

See ATTAO on Page 26

Saipan-born Dela Cruz enjoys high school football

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

All that Isaiah Dela Cruz wanted was to get into a sport that will keep him active and that's why he chose American football.

Slowly, he's grown to love the gridiron where he hopes to use it as his way to get into college and someday reach the National Football League.

"Back in 2014, I wanted to join a sport to help keep me in shape and I know it will

help me with my future," Dela Cruz, who has the full backing of his dad, Cecil Cepeda Dela Cruz, told *Saipan Tribune* in an email.

The Dela Cruz family is now based in Lakewood, Washington where Isaiah is playing for the Clover Park High School Warriors football team.

"I love the contact and the hitting. And I want to do what my dad loves. I hope to someday go and play college football and be the first person from Saipan to reach the

See SAIPAN on Page 26



Isaiah Dela Cruz enjoys playing for the Clover Park High School Warriors where he aims to hone his football skills.

MCC back to normal, expects large Korean group next week

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Mariana Country Club operations manager Palik Thomson said that the Marpi golf course is ready to host a large group of Korean tourists after being closed for a month due to Typhoon Soudelor.

"We're back in business. Fully operational and we're expecting a large group of Korean tourists that will play here at MCC next week," said Thomson in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

"The people who we are expecting to play and made reservations in September are back. They rescheduled for October and we're ready to host them. We're going to be busy," added Thomson.

Even individual golfers and local golf associations also returned to play at MCC.

MCC was one of the four golf courses—Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort, Kingfisher Golf Links, and Laolao Bay Golf & Resort—on Saipan that

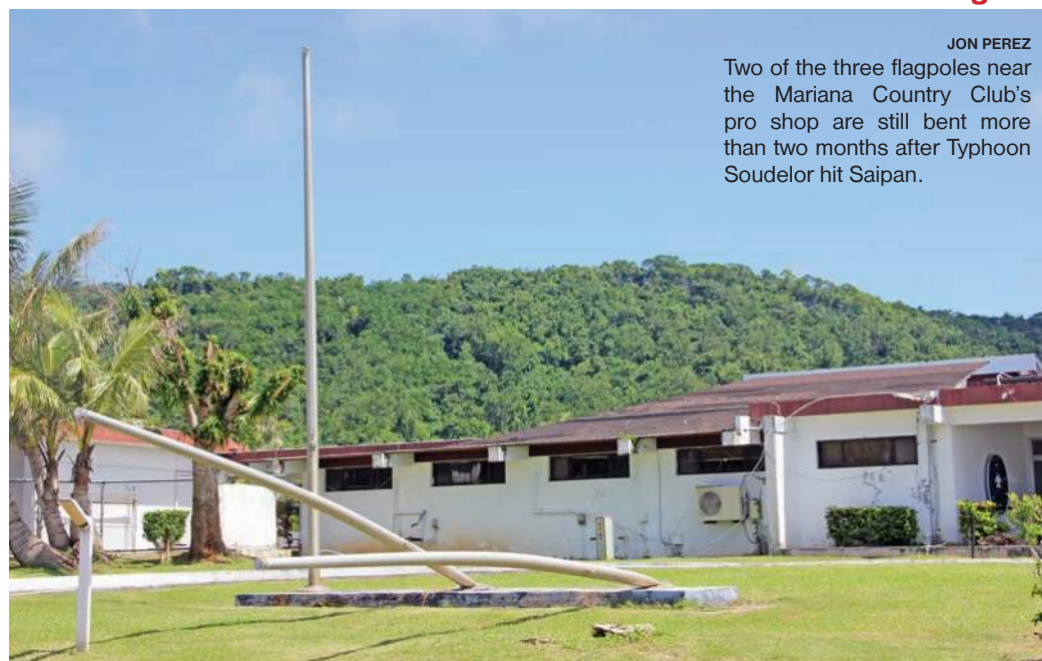
sustained heavy damage when Soudelor hit the island last August.

"MCC was closed for two weeks after the typhoon. We

needed to clear the fallen trees and other debris that littered the golf course," said Thomson.

"After two weeks, we only

See MCC on Page 26



Two of the three flagpoles near the Mariana Country Club's pro shop are still bent more than two months after Typhoon Soudelor hit Saipan.